VICTORY
COVER B
image
1 MAY $2.95 $4.50 CAN
CASSARO
FRANCISCO
VAZZIOS
COLD FUZION
RIAMONDE
VAZZIOS
IMAGECOMICS.COM

image COMICS PRESENTS

VICTORY™

PLOTS & SCRIPT:
MARCELO CASSARO
& PETRA LEÃO

ART & INKS:
EDU FRANCISCO

SCRIPTS FINISH:
JACOBS LADDER
OF COLD FUZION

COLORS:
ANDRÉ VAZZIOS &
RICARDO RIAMONDE

GRAPHICS & FX:
RÓMULO SOARES
& COLD FUZION

ART DIRECTOR:
RÓMULO SOARES
& SARA STEVENS

COVERS:
ROGER CRUZ,
EDU FRANCISCO
AND ALUISIO DE SOUZA

EDITS BY:
KEVIN D. CAMPBELL
& SARA STEVENS

PRODUCED BY:
COLD FUZION STUDIOS

[THE FUZE HAS BEEN LIT!]

COLDFUZIONSTUDIOS.COM

PUBLISHED BY:
IMAGE COMICS

JIM VALENTINO
PUBLISHER
ERIC STEPHENSON
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
BRENT BRAUN
DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION
TRACI HALE
CONTROLLER/FOREIGN LICENSING
BRETT EVANS
ART DIRECTOR
ALLEN HUI
WEB DEVGELOPER
CINDIE ESPINOZA
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
TIM HEGARTY
BOOK TRADE COORDINATOR

WWW.IMAGECOMICS.COM

Victory Vol. I #1. First Printing. Published by Image Comics office of publication: 1071 N. Batavia St. Suite A, Orange, CA 92867.

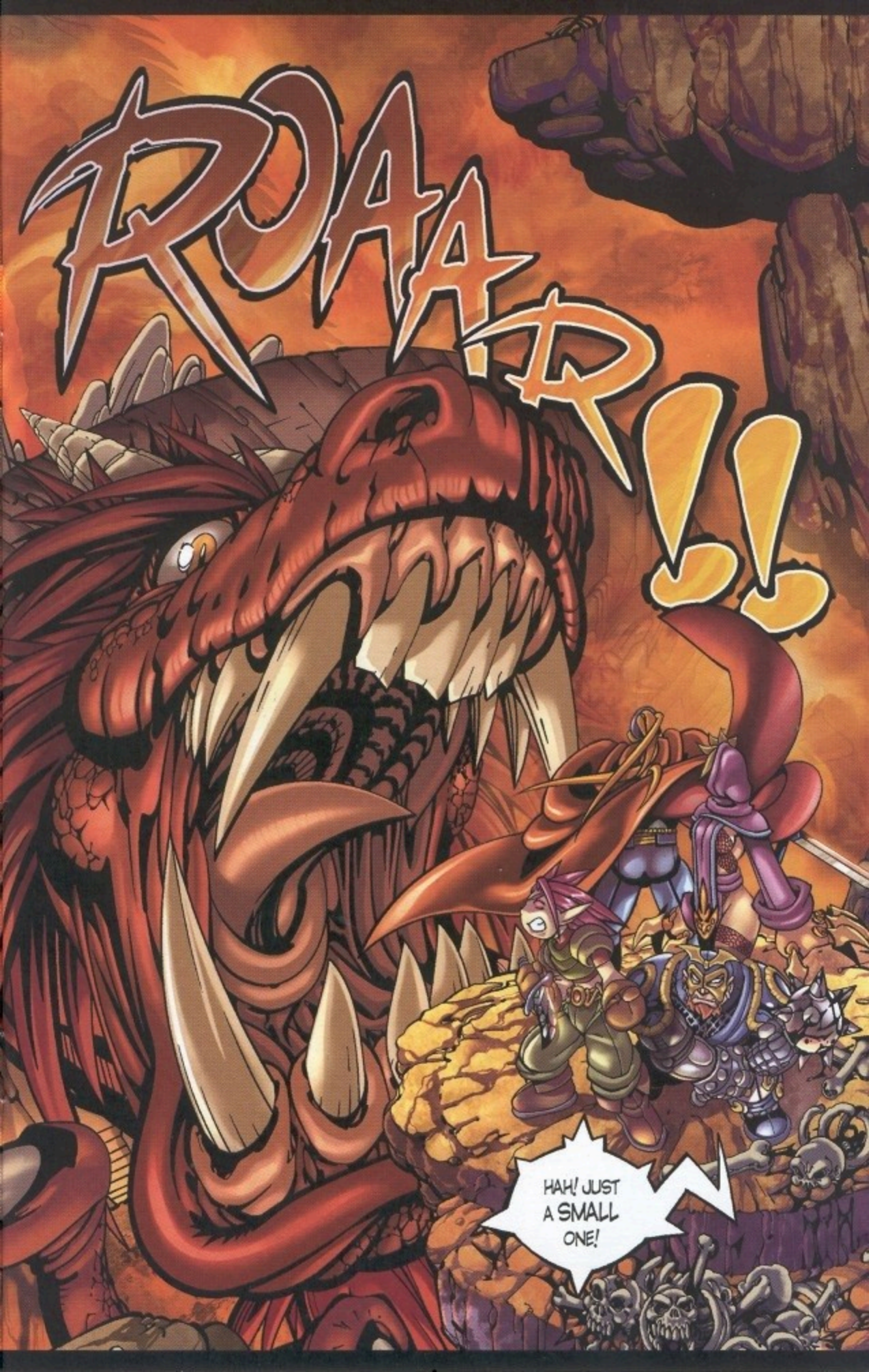
Image and its logos are ® and © 2003 Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Victory is ™ and © 2003 Editora Talisma. All rights reserved. The characters and situations presented in this book are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. The contents of this book may not be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder, except for artwork used for review purposes. Printed in Canada.

THE ULTIMATE BATTLE LIES AHEAD!
IT WAS A TOUGH CAMPAIGN! THE MAJORITY OF US DIDN'T SURVIVE TO FIGHT TODAY!
MANY BRAVE WARRIORS HAVE FALLEN BY THE WAYSIDE!
THERE IS NO NEED TO TELL US THIS ALL THE WAY HERE, FEARLESS KNIGHT!
WE ALL LAMENT THE LOSS OF OUR COMPANIONS!
WHO NEEDS WORDS? WE HAVE BATTLE SCARS TO PROVE OUR FEATS!
CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW THEM TO THE OTHER DWARVES OF THE KINGDOM!
WELL, YOU CAN KEEP ALL THE SCARS YOU WANT, DUDE!
I PREFER TO STAY CHARMING AND HANDSOME FOR THE ELVEN MAIDENS!

HAH! ELVEN MAIDENS?
WHEN WE'RE OUT OF HERE, I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO A GOOD DWARF WOMAN...
...WITH A LOT OF MUSCLE!
YCK!
IF THAT'S THE CASE, I DON'T WANNA TO LEAVE THESE CAVES ALIVE!
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT, MY ELVEN FRIEND!
BECAUSE, IF THE FORMS AHEAD ARE WHAT I SUSPECT...
...YOUR WISH WILL COME TRUE!
CARRION MAKERS!
THE SLIGHTEST TOUCH OF THEIR ANTENNAE BURNS THE FLESH!
NOT MY FLESH, SORCERESS!
NOT WITHOUT A GOOD FIGHT!
DUDE, YOU SHOULD ALLOW IT...
.... BECAUSE ANY CARRION SMELLS BETTER THAN YOU >HEHEH!<.
I'LL HIT YOU! HIT! HIT! HIT!
STOP THAT YOU GUYS!
OUCH!
OUCH!
OUCH!!!

NO ONE WILL DIE TODAY...
...EXCEPT THE ONES WHO STAND IN THE WAY OF JUSTICE!
HEY! WAIT FOR...
KRAN!
HUM!
...US!
YOUR HUNGER FOR JUSTICE MAKES YOU AN IMPRUDENT ONE, HEROIC KNIGHT!
I COULD HANDLE THESE MONSTERS IN A SAFE DISTANCE!
STOP RISKING YOURSELF WITHOUT A REASON!
SORCERESS, SAVE YOUR SPELLS FOR THE GREAT BATTLE WHICH LIES AHEAD!
WE FACED HORRORS THAT COULD DRIVE AWAY THE SOUL OF A MAN...
WE TRAVELLED SIX WORLDS AND NINE HELLS!
...AND EMERGED VICTORIOUS! BUT NOW, BEFORE US, OUR FINAL CHALLENGE!

AKNOTEP,
THE EIGHTH DRAGON-KING!
FATHER OF ALL THAT IS EVIL! COMMANDER OF THE LOWER PLANE'S LEGIONS!
AND IN ITS POWER, THE ONE WHO WE CAME TO RESCUE...


ROAR!!
HAH! JUST A SMALL ONE!

"...THE GOLDEN ELVES AVATAR-PRINCESS!"
LISTEN MY HUMBLE REQUEST, HEROES! SAVE YOURSELVES!
KEEP YOUR VALIANT LIVES! DON'T MAKE ME WATCH MORE DEATHS!
listen to the princess, little ones! be judicious!
look for more lenient enemies!
YOU SHOW THE ARROGANCE OF THE DRAGONS, AKNOTEP! WYRMS BELIEVE THAT THEY CANNOT BE BEATEN BY MORTALS!
AND TODAY, THAT CONVICTION WILL BE YOUR DOWNFALL!
all my pride has a reason, HEAVEN'S KNIGHT!
aknotep has never been defeated in FOUR MILLENIA!
WOOSH!
see this while I burn your bones!

IF THE HELLFIRE COULDN'T STOP MY QUEST, DEMON, YOUR BREATH WILL NOT DO IT!
NEITHER MEANS ANYTHING AGAINST THE ENCHANTED SHIELD OF HEAVEN'S KNIGHT!
NOW ASK FOR FORGIVENESS BEFORE THE GREATER DEITIES!
KLANG!
A SORCERESS HAS A GREATER NEED FOR HER WORDS!
OH, COURAGEOUS KNIGHT! YOU APPRECIATE THE SOUND OF YOUR OWN VOICE LIKE NO OTHER! EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE MY SECRET LOVE...
...MUST YOU REALLY BE SO DRAMATIC?
... AND FROM THOSE WORDS, I SHALL CALL FORTH THE POWER OF A MYSTIC MISSILE!!!
and what about you, insignificant one?
do you believe that you can do any damage to me with such a small and poor weapon?
HOWEVER, DON'T PLACE FAITH IN MY WORDS! LET THEM BE PROVEN WITH DWARVEN STEEL!
MY PEOPLE WERE SMITHING WEAPONS WHEN YOU WERE ONLY AN EGG!
YOU MOCK MY MACE, WYRM?

TOIM!
YEAH!
EXCELLENT! PERFECT! WHILE MY FRIENDS KEEP THE BEAST DISTRACTED...
...THIS ELF STALKER ATTACKS WITH HIS MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS...
...WITS AND STEALTHNESS!
SEE AS I JUMP OVER THIS HEAD OF THE DRAGON-KING...
...TO MAKE A BACKSTAB ATTACK, INCREASING MY CHANCE TO MAKE THE MONSTER FALL!
BACKSTAB?! WHOA, HOLD YOU FIRE, RUBBER NECK!
YOU CANNOT BACKSTAB ME, DO YOU HEAR ME?

ARE YOU CRAZY? I CAN'T? HOW COULD THAT BE?
IT'S MY SPECIAL THIEF ATTACK FOR DOUBLE DAMAGE!
YES. BUT IT IS ONLY APPLICABLE TO HUMANOIDS! WITH DRAGONS, IT DOESN'T WORK!
CRAP! AND MY PLUS 4 BONUS IN THE ATTACK ROLL?
THE SAME! BACKSTAB ATTACKS HAS NO BONUS AGAINST DRAGONS!
BLAST! MY ELF ALWAYS STAYS AWAY FROM THE BATTLE!
NOW DROP YOUR "MONTY HALL" SYNDROME AND CONTINUE PLAYING, DARIO!
IT WAS YOU WHO WANTED TO PLAY AS A THIEF, WASN'T IT?
THAT'S RIGHT! THE THIEF IS THE WEAKEST CHARACTER IN COMBAT!
HAVEN'T YOU SEEN THE ULTIMATE BATTLE GUIDE, 3RD EDITION?

HERE YOU GO WITH ALL THOSE RULES AND CRAP! COME ON!
DROP IT! YOU ALREADY SPENT YOUR TURN!
AT LEAST LET ME MAKE AN ATTACK WITH BONUS POINTS OR SOMETHING!
NOW IT'S THE DRAGON'S TURN! I WILL ROLL IT'S ATTACK!
HEADS WILL ROLL, THAT'S IT!
ENOUGH OF THIS MESS, KIDS!
YOU CANNOT PLAY HERE ANY MORE!
BUT IS THIS NOT A GAME AREA?
IT'S AN AREA FOR NORMAL GAMES!
NOT THAT CRAZY THING OF YOURS!
SPAWN OF THE WYRM!
CTHULHU'S FOLLOWER!
NECROMANCER!
PURPLE DRAGON!
MAN, KICKED OUT OF THE BEACH, THE MALL AND NOW THE PUBLIC SQUARE!
ROLEPLAYERS ARE VEEERY DANGEROUS, YOU KNOW!
KEEP COOL, BIBS! THERE'S A GUY THAT WILL NOT TURN US AWAY!
THE DRUID!
YEAH, MUST BE AFRAID THAT SOMEONE'S GONNA GET DICED IN THE EYE!
HUNH!

ELSEWHERE.
HMM... HOW CAN I EXPLAIN?
COULD BE NOTHING, NOWADAYS WHO CAN TELL?
SKY AND SEA ARE BOTH LOOKING A LITTLE STRANGE!
HEY! DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE SOMETHING...
...IS GOING TO HAPPEN?
I FEEL NOTHING'S GONNA "HAPPEN"...
...IF I DON'T MAKE THE FIRST MOVE!
OH, WELL... NEVERMIND! JUST NONSENSE!
NOW SAY, WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE?
HOW CAN YOU BE SO CUTE, AND YET SO DUMB?
!?!?
MmmFFH!
YAAAAGHHH
OH GOD!

cAUght a bAd ONe, eh bROTHer?
the chiCK WAs hOT!
SHould hAVe mAdE goOd USe of hER!

NOW iT's tOoO laTE, See?!
'CAuse yOU're DEAD, pAL!

and WHere aRE yOu, litTLe sHit dEVils?
it's KAROLE! hERe cALLing!
we mUSt Fix thiNGs hERe for the BOss's aRRival!
Big clEan up nOw, Ok?
he Will wANt a RED carPET recEPtion, yOu'KNow...
...aNd we cAN beT HE's not eXPectiNg kETchUP!

I WANT TO GO BACK, FATHER...
FIGHT AGAIN...
BATTLE AGAIN...
BE BRIGHT AGAIN...
GIVE JOY TO YOUR HEART...
GIVE FEAR TO ALL THAT IS EVIL...
GIVE MY BEAUTY TO THE WORLD...
BECAUSE I WAS BORN FOR THIS...
BORN TO MAKE WAR AND GLORY...
BORN TO MAKE VICTORY...
BORN TO BE VICTORY...

MY WORLD...
MY HOME...
MY DEAR, LOVED WORLD...
THE LIFE...
THE MAGIC...
THE GODS...
THE MONSTERS...

I MISS THEM...
ALL OF THEM...
I WANT TO GO BACK...

SO, HEEDLESS YOUNG...
...YOU DARE TO SEEK THE HELP OF THE DRUID?
COME IN, GANG! I KNOW HOW IT IS WHEN THEY DON'T LET US PLAY!
IT WAS THIS WAY ALREADY IN MY TIME! OH, THE HARSHNESS!
GREAT DRUID!
HELLO, BRENDA!
ROWN!
WOW! TAKASHI! LOOK AT THE DRUID'S RPG SOURCEBOOKS COLLECTION!
HE HAS THE UTMOST COMPENDIUM OF MAGICAL BROADSWORDS!
KIDS THESE DAYS ONLY WANT TO KNOW ABOUT INTERNET AND VIDEOGAMES!
NO ONE LOOKS TO ENJOY THE OLD FASHIONED ROLE PLAYING GAMES!

MAKE YOURSELVES COMFORTABLE! I'M GOING TO THE KITCHEN TO CAST A GREAT FOOD SPELL!
WHERE WERE WE? AH YES... THE DRAGON-KING WAS ABOUT TO USE THE ELEMENTAL FIRE BREATH OF THE THIRD HEAD...
AFTER SUFFERING MY BACKSTAB ATTACK, PLEASE!
AH, COME ON!
THE RULES SAY THAT YOU CANNOT DO THIS!
WHAT A STUPID RULE! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, DRAGONS DON'T HAVE BACKS?
OK, OK! THERE'S MUST BE SOME OPTIONAL RULE ABOUT THIS!
MAYBE THE DRUID HAS THE GREAT MANUAL OF DRAGONS...
LET ME SEE... THE TOME OF GOLENS... CAMPAIGN GUIDE TO DARKLAND... SPELLS WITH FOCUS 8 TO 17... DWARVEN FORGE'S MASTERBOOK...
WOW! THE PEARL UNICORN ANATOMY! A CLASSIC!
BUT WHAT'S THIS? I DON'T KNOW THIS ONE!

GAME MASTER, CAN I HAVE AN AXE OF DWARVISH LORDS OR TWO?
YOU CAN HAVE A BROKEN BONE OR TWO!
JUST TAKE OFF THOSE DAMN EARPHONES...
EEEK! SCARY!
...AND SEE WHAT THIS HAS TO SAY!
CLICK.
CLICK.
AWESOME! IT'S A CREATURE CATALOG!
A LOT OF NICE MONSTERS!
WOW! THIS ONE MUST BE A TANNA'ZU LORD OF THE THIRTIETH CIRCLE!
DANGER RATE 60 OR MORE!
WHAT'S UP, BRENDA?
FISSSSK!
MUCH BETTER THEN A MULTIHEADED DRAGON-KING!
I WANNA PUT IT IN MY CAMPAIGN!
BUT THERE'S NO ATTRIBUTES! NO COMBAT STATISTICS! HOW WILL I USE THIS IN A GAME?
ARRR! I CAN'T EVEN READ HIS NAME!
WHAT LANGUAGE IS THAT?

"LOOKS LIKE TOLKIEN ELFIC MIXED WITH MESOPOTAMIC RUNES!"
It's rigHt thERe, PEople!
hO peOplE, How wEIrd! suDdeNLy, I have a baAAad feeliNG...
Did we arRIVe tOO late?
IT'S NOT THE ALPHABET OF THE DARK ELVES! COULD IT BE KLINGON?
DRUID'S IN THE HOUSE, GANG! SOFT DRINKS AND SANDWICHES FOR EVERYONE!
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, FLAVIUS?
K'ATHAN... K'ATRANA... THIS THING IS NOT EASY ANYWAY!

EI! PUT IT BACK! YOU CAN'T READ...
ARG!
heED THou frIEnd, bRAT! paY atteNTion to HIs last requEST!
CLose the bOOK! NOW!
HEROE'S FEAST! AND FLYING! THANKS, DRUID!
THUMP!
THUMP!
GOTTA CATCH THEM ALL!
OUCH! HEY, THE DRUID NEED'S A SANITY CHECK!
CLOK
DRUID'S A GREAT GUY, BUT A LITTLE ODD SOMETIMES!
YEAH! EVEN FOR A GAMER!
COOL, DRUID! BUT YOUR TROLL IMITATION DOESN'T FOOL ANYONE!
SOUND'S MORE LIKE A DROWNING ORC!
K'ATRH... K'ATRHNOA... MUST BE LIKE THIS!
K'THANWA! MAYBE THAT?
K'ATAH NOA!
K'ATHA NOA!

FREEEEEDDDOOOMM
IN THE WORDS OF THE GREAT WANDERER...
COULD I'VE BEEN WRONG?
*IT'S "OH HELL!" IN DEMON LANGUAGE

FREEDOM!
THE NAME! THE PROFECY WAS FINALY FULLFILLED!
AN ANCIENT HORROR IS CLOSE AT HAND...

...BUT MY HEART IS OVERFLOWED WITH JOY!
THE UNIVERSE'S MAJOR DEFENDER RETURNED!
OWNER OF POWER AND BEAUTY BEYOND EVERYTHING!
AND NO HUMILITY EVER BLEMISH THIS TRUTH!
TO BE CONTINUED

COVER B
image
2
$2.95
$4.15 CAN
VICTORY
IMAGECOMICS.COM
CASSARO • FRANCISCO • COLD FUZIO

image® COMICS PRESENTS...

VICTORY™ ISSUE #2

FOR COLD FUZION STUDIOS

MARCELO CASSARO & PETRA LEÃO
PLOTS & SCRIPT:

EDU FRANCISCO
ART & INKS:

JACOBS LADDER
SCRIPTS FINISH:

ANDRÉ VAZZIOS, RICARDO RIAMONDE RÔMULO SOARES & TEAM COLD FUZION
COLORS, GRAPHICS & FX:

COVERS:
EDU FRANCISCO &
ALUISIO DE SOUZA

EDITS BY:
EVAN BILLINGSLEY
DEREK O'GORMAN
KEVIN D. CAMPBELL

PRODUCED BY:
ALSHA LOPAC STEVENS (HBIC)
SARA JOANNA STEVENS
COLD FUZION STUDIOS
(THE FUZE HAS BEEN LIT!)
WWW.COLDFUZIONSTUDIOS.COM

FOR IMAGE COMICS OFFICE

JIM VALENTINO - PUBLISHER

BRENT BRAUN -
DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION

ERIC STEPHENSON -
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

TRACI HALE -
CONTROLLER / FOREIGN LICENSING

BRETT EVANS - ART DIRECTOR

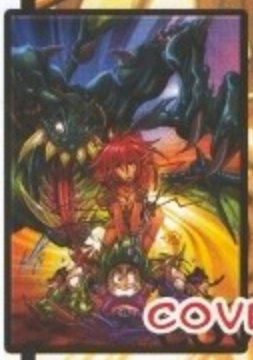
ALLEN HUI - WEB DEVELOPER

CINDIE ESPINOZA -
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

TIM HEGARTY -
BOOK TRADE COORDINATOR

WWW.IMAGECOMICS.COM

COVER A


COVER B

CHASE COVER C

Victory Vol. I #2. September 2003. First Printing. Published by Image Comics office of publication: 1071 N. Batavia St. Suite A, Orange, CA 92867. Image and its logos are ® and © 2003 Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Victory is ™ and © 2003 Editora Talisma. All rights reserved. The characters and situations presented in this book are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. The contents of this book may not be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder, except for artwork used for review purposes. Printed in Canada.

THE PACIFIC OCEAN.
HOME OF THE MARIANA PITS. THIS AREA IS THE DEEPEST POINT OF THE SEA WORLD.
AND IT IS THE HOME OF THE SPERM WHALE.
WEIGHING OVER 80 TONS, AND NEARLY 65 FEET IN LENGTH, IT IS MUCH LARGER THAN A TYRANNOSAURUS REX.
THIS MAMMAL IS WHAT INSPIRED THE CLASSIC TALE OF MOBY DICK.
IT IS THE BIGGEST PREDATOR KNOWN TO MAN.
UNFORTUNATELY...
THE SEA ABYSS HAS UNKNOWN PREDATORS. EVEN GREATER THAN THE SPERM WHALE.
ONE SPERM WHALE CAN HOLD ITS BREATH FOR AN ENTIRE HOUR.
THIS IS A SIMPLE TRUTH THAT MAKES THIS PARTICULAR WHALE ...
... REGRET THAT IT DID NOT RETURN TO THE SURFACE SOONER.

FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA TO THE HEIGHTS OF THE HEAVENS...
WHEN VICTORIA'S IN THE SKY, THE DAY BECOMES BRIGHTER.
THE SUN ITSELF BECOMES PALE.
THE JOY IN HER CHEST IS MORE THAN JUST EMOTION.
HER HEART EMANATES LIGHT AND HEAT.
ALONG WITH THE CREATION OF ENERGY, VICTORIA IS UNRESTRICTED POWER.
HER HAPPINESS, ALONE, COULD ILLUMINATE THE ENTIRE EAST COAST FOR YEARS.
JUST HER SMILE CAN WARM THE COLDEST HEART...
...OR THE COLDEST PLANET!

HER SMILE BRINGS STRENGTH TO THE WEAK AND HOPE TO THE HOPELESS.
SHE WAS CREATED TO BRING HAPPINESS.
CREATED TO BRING BEAUTY AND GLORY TO THE WORLD.
BECAUSE SHE IS THE EMBODIMENT OF VICTORY...
...AND NOTHING ANYWHERE IS SWEETER THAN THAT.

BUT COULD IT REALLY BE TRUE? NOT JUST ANOTHER DREAM ...
... AMONG THE MANY DREAMS I HAVE HAD THROUGH THE AGES?
I ALMOST FEAR TO BELIEVE!
NO... NOW I'M SURE...
THE SKY... WIND... CLOUDS... ALL REAL!
IT'S NOT A DREAM!
MUNCH!
NAK!
CHOMP!
I'M FLESH AND BLOOD AGAIN!
I'M POWER MADE LIFE AGAIN!
LIFE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW LONG I HAVE AWAITED THIS...
TO BREATH... FLY... SMILE...

AND FIGHT!

CAN YOU FEEL IT, FATHER?
CAN YOU FEEL MY POWER?
CAN YOU FEEL MY HAPPINESS?
I KNOW YOU ARE PROUD OF ME, FATHER.
DEMI GODDESS ALERT!
tHis no loOK gOod for tHE litTLe dEMonS!
buT wAit! SHe's not aWAre yET!
(wHO knOwS, todAY be oUr LUcky dAy!?)
HOW I MISS THE BEAUTY OF THIS WORLD!
THE BRIGHT CLEAR BLUE SKIES!
THE SOFT COTTON CLOUDS!
IT ALMOST MAKES ME FEEL AS IF I WERE A CUTE ELVEN CHILD AGAIN.
You kNOw... CHILD KILLER is My midDLe NAmE!
No kidDinG!
!!!

GOT CHA!
be LOoking to Me thAT you returNEd onLY to DIE, missy!
SHOK!
HMMM...
IS THAT PAIN? I REMEMBER THAT!
I HAVEN'T FELT THIS SENSATION FOR NEARLY A MILLENNIUM!
KAROLE!
YOUR LITTLE VISIT WAS COOL, BUT I MUST...
...ANNIHILATE YOU ALL!
AGAIN!
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU FORGOT OUR PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS! ALLOW ME TO REFRESH YOUR MEMORY!
AAGH
REMEMBER ME NOW?

REMEMBER THE OTHER TIMES WHEN YOU CHALLENGED ME IN THE NAME OF YOUR EVIL GOD?
THAP!
REMEMBER THE WAY I REDUCED YOU TO PRIMAL PULP?
THE FIVE CHILDREN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUMMONING OF VICTORIA STAND AS WITNESSES.
FLAVIUS, LALO, BIBS, TAKASHI AND DARIO.
THEY ARE GAMERS. ROLE-PLAYERS. AND THEY UNDERSTAND SOME OF WHAT'S HAPPENING.
I'VE HEARD OF 'RIP OFF YOUR ARM AND BEAT YOU WITH IT!'
YEAH, BUT I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN SOMEONE DO IT!
I CAN'T THINK OF ONE REASON TO SERVE A GOD AS RUTHLESS AS THAT!
WHY WOULD YOU WANNA WORSHIP SOMEONE WHO WOULD REQUIRE YOU TO BE BEATEN BY ME?
BUT WAIT! WHAT AM I DOING?
HOW CAN HE DESERVE YOUR LOYALTY?
A DEMIGODDESS CAN'T BE SEEN GRIPPING SUCH A DIRTY WEAPON!

HEH! I PRAY THE ROYAL HISTORIANS NEVER DESCRIBE THAT SCENE IN THEIR SACRED SCROLLS!
I MUST FIGHT WITH THE ONLY WEAPON IN EXISTENCE WORTHY OF MY USE!
BRENDA! TAKE YOUR TRUE ARTIFACT AVATAR FORM!
MIAU
AAH! EXCELLENT!
THAT'S BETTER, DEAR! SHOW THEM HOW A DEMIGODDESS FIGHTS!

ONLY A FEW DEMON KILLERS, I KNOW!
ONLY A FEW HUNDRED!
BUT THEY'LL HAVE TO BE ENOUGH...
...UNTIL WE FIND A REAL BATTLE!

SEE, KAROLEI! WATCH YOUR NEWEST FAILURE!
(ouch!) jUST oNe sEc!
WITNESS THE REMAINS OF YOUR LEGION RAINING DOWN ON THE SAFE WORLD OF ARTON!
ARTON?!
YOu sAid artON?! tHat's A GoOd onE, misSY!
do yOU ThinK we ARe STILL ON ARTON?!
OF COURSE...
I MEAN... WHERE ELSE COULD WE BE?

oK, miSSy! I'm LEaviNg foR noW! BuT WneN thE trUTh slaPS thAT cUte faCe of YOurS...
...I'LL be THere tO LAUGH!
YOU'RE ONLY A MISERABLE MINION OF MY TRUE ENEMY, KAROLE!
MY HAPPINESS IS SO GREAT THAT I'LL ALLOW YOUR ESCAPE THIS TIME!
AFTER ALL, WHAT WOULD THE PRIESTESSES OF THE ORDER SAY?
NOW, I HAVE SOME INTERESTING SUBJECTS TO DEAL WITH...
OH, I FORGOT! THE WOUND! THE PERFECT BODY OF A DEMIGODDESS...
...BEGINNING WITH THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR MY SUMMONING!
...MUST NOT BE SEEN IN SUCH A DEPLORABLE STATE!

OH, GIMME A BREAK! ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE HALF GODDESS?
A DEMIGODDESS? LIKE HERCULES, THE SON OF ZEUS?
ARE YOU TRYING TO OFFEND ME? THAT "ZEUS" OF YOURS MUST BE JUST A LESSER GOD!
OH! I RECOGNIZE THE VOICE THAT UTTERED K'ATHANOA'S PROFANE NAME!
NOW, YOU WILL GET WHAT YOU DESERVE!
WAIT! SORRY! MY MISTAKE! I DIDN'T...
MEAN TO... DON'T KILL ME, OK?

AAHH!
MY LITTLE WANDERER! DEAR FREEDOM GIVER!
EVEN YOUR MIGHTY IMAGINATION CAN'T MEASURE MY CURRENT MERRIMENT!
YOU WILL FOREVER HAVE MY GRATITUDE, YOUNG MASTER!
WHO DARES DEFILE THIS SACRED AND HAPPY MOMENT WITH SCREAMS?
HEY, LADY! I HELPED TOO!
K'ATHANOA! K'ATHANOA!
THE DRUID... THE MONSTER... HE'S...
AH, THE MAGIC TOMES' GUARDIAN! DON'T BE AFRAID FOR HIM, LOVED ONES!
SUCH A PRECIOUS SERVANT WON'T RECEIVE DEATH AS A REWARD!
THE DRUID IS DEAD!

WAIT! ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT *RESURRECTING* THE DRUID?!
YOU CAN DO THAT?
TRULY, DISBELIEVER, THERE ARE VERY FEW THINGS A DEMIGODDESS CANNOT DO!
I DON'T HAVE PERMISSION TO VIOLATE THE REALM OF THE DEAD, IT'S TRUE ...
BUT MY FATHER'S REIGN IS FAR ABOVE SUCH LIMITATIONS!
HEAR ME, FATHER! RAISE FROM THE DEAD THIS HONORED GUARDIAN ...
... BECAUSE YOUR NOBILITY AND KINDNESS KNOWS NO BOUNDS!
?!
FATHER?

Y-YOU HAVEN'T ANSWERED MY WISH, DAD!
I CAN'T FEEL YOU! CAN'T FEEL ANY OF YOU! WHERE ARE YOU ALL?
WHERE ARE YOU? WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER?
PLEASE, DAD! YOU'RE SCARING ME!
WE HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO EACH OTHER FOR AGES! I AM LONGING TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
ARE YOU ANGRY AGAIN? AM I BEING PUNISHED WITH YOUR DISREGARD?
DIDN'T I FIGHT WELL AGAINST THE K'ATHANOA'S FORCES?
DIDN'T I BRING PRIDE TO YOUR HEART? DAD, SAY SOMETHING!
UM... IN THE GREAT WARRIOR'S WORDS... UUUOOOOHHH...*
*"I HAVE A BAAAD FEELING ABOUT THIS..."

THE PACIFIC OCEAN.
HOURS AGO, THE NAVSTAR SATELLITE NETWORK DETECTED A TIDE ANOMALY.
AN ASN PLANE (ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE) WAS SENT TO INVESTIGATE.
THE RUMOR IS CONFIRMED! THE SEA LEVEL IS FIFTEEN METERS HIGHER AT THIS POINT!
COULD BE A VOLCANIC ISLAND FORMATION, OR...
COMMANDER!
SOMETHING ON RADAR! COMING IN FASTER THAN...
GET AWAY, DAMN IT!
KAROLEI, FIEND COMMANDER.
HE'S ALMOST USED TO HAVING HIS LIMBS RIPPED OFF BY VICTORIA. BUT NOW HE KNOWS HER WEAK POINT ...
ASN plane, single turbo-propeller! biiig deal!
blasting those F-16's in Gulf, that was cool!

Hhi, LOrd!
You knOW thE missioN weNT to heLL, RigHt?
I screWEd up, atTAcking wHEn tHe ELf was Full of happiNESs!
Yeah, I know! But now, thinGS have CHANGED!
SHE'S CONFUSED ... LIKE A LITTLE GIRL!
VicTOria knoWS her woRLD is GONE!
It's BEst to Strike NOW!
AAHHHHH
nOW it's sLAY TimE!
THe laDy is in big tROubLE!
Cooooool, bOSs!
exTRa-anGLed eLBow witH miCRoquitinOUs saW!
HAVEN'T SEEN ONE THIS GOOD SINCE THE GREAT EXTINCTION!
IT'S MORE THAN TEN KILOMETERS BELOW SEA LEVEL...
FAR BENEATH THE WAVES, ON THE OCEAN FLOOR, A GREAT EYE SMILES WITH SATISFACTION.
... AND IT CAN STILL BE SEEN!

THIS IS... TOO WEIRD...
THE VICTIM WAS SLAUGHTERED IN SUCH A BRUTAL WAY...
POLICE LINE
DO NOT
... BUT THERE'S NO WEAPON AT THE CRIME SCENE THAT COULD HAVE CREATED SUCH INJURIES!
BESIDES, THE MURDERER WOULD HAVE TO BE TREMENDOUSLY STRONG TO USE SUCH A WEAPON!
THE BODY WAS GOUGED FIVE TIMES...
... WITH AN EXTREMELY SHARP RAZOR-LIKE OBJECT!
IT WASN'T ONE SHARP OBJECT! IT WAS FIVE SHARP BLADES...
... AND THEY IMPALED THE DRUID AT THE SAME TIME!
THE FIVE CLAWS OF A MONSTER!

AND WHAT ARE THOSE KIDS DOING HERE?
THE KIDS SAY THEY ARE WITNESSES SIR, BUT...
THEY WERE INTERROGATED TWICE, AND THE PARAMEDICS ARE SAYING THEY'RE IN SHOCK!
POLICE LINE
THEY WON'T STOP TALKING ABOUT A MONSTER AND A WOMAN FALLING FROM THE SKY!
THE KIDS MUST BE ACTING LIKE THAT BECAUSE OF SOMETHING THAT MANIAC GAVE TO THEM!
WITH THOSE CREEPY BOOKS AND DICE...
RIGHT! HE WAS DANGEROUS! A CULTIST!
IT'S THAT "RUNE PLAY GAME", ISN'T IT?
SHUDDAP! WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE DRUID?
HE WAS BETTER THAN ANY OF YOU!
HE USED TO TALK ABOUT DRAGONS AND ORCS WITH MORE KINDNESS THAN YOU TALK ABOUT HIM!
I WISH THE MONSTER WOULD COME BACK...
ENOUGH, BIBS!
...AND KICK YOUR HEADS IN, YOU BUNCH OF...
HEY LALO, GIVE ME A HAND WITH BIBS BEFORE SHE SCREWS IT ALL UP!
SORRY, OFFICERS, BUT CAN WE LEAVE NOW?
WE HAVE YOUR ADDRESSES! YOU CAN GO!
YOU REALLY DON'T WANT AN ESCORT?

IT'S OK OFFICER, REALLY!
COME ON, DARIO! PEOPLE!
YEAH, SURE! IT'S MORE LIKELY THAT HE'LL MAKE A CRITICAL HIT ON YOU!
ARE YOU ALL INSANE? DID YOUR SANITY CHECK BOUNCE TODAY?
EVERYONE THINKS WE'RE DRUGGED-UP LIARS! THEY'RE TALKING TRASH ABOUT OUR FRIEND!
RELAX, KIDS! WE'LL CATCH THE... UH... "MONSTER" THAT DID THIS TO YOUR FRIEND!
WAKE UP, BIBS!
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT TELLING THE TRUTH WILL INCREASE OUR CREDIBILITY... OR THE DRUID'S REPUTATION?
HARSH, BUT TRUE...
"... YES, OFFICER, A GODDESS AND A DEMON CAME FROM THE SKIES TO CLASH IN OUR FRIEND'S DINING ROOM!"
EVEN I DIDN'T BELIEVE...
THAT'S IT, BIBS! THEY THINK WE'RE CHILDREN INVOLVED WITH A LUNATIC!
AND WHEN THE COPS FIND OUR PARENTS, WE'LL EARN A VISIT TO THE PSYCHOLOGIST!
WE SHOULD ALL ACT LIKE WE DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING...
LIKE IT WAS A DREAM... RIGHT, DARIO?
!!!
PEOPLE, I HAVE A DREAM!

THE COOLEST DREAM EVER!
AN EPIC LEVEL ELVEN DEMIGODDESS COMES TO MAKE FULL POWER ATTACKS...
...AGAINST THE PIT'S TANNA'ZU... OR MAYBE WYRM'S MUTANTS, WHATEVER!
LET ME SEE... WE ACT LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED, SO NO ONE SAYS THAT WE'RE CRAZY...
...AND THEN WE REALLY GET CRAZY, IS THAT IT?
COME ON, GUY! THAT WASN'T A DREAM!
AND CHARISMA 22... WE CAN'T FORGET THE CHARISMA 22!
KEEP COOL, OK? I KNOW IT WASN'T A DREAM! BUT THINK ABOUT IT!
A DEMIGODDESS! DAMN, SOMEONE LIKE THAT CAN SOLVE ANYTHING!
IF IT'S A DREAM, I WANNA WAKE UP SOON!
COULD IT BE TRUE THAT RPGS MAKE PEOPLE CRAZY?
GAK!
I DUNNO, BIBS...
WELL... MAYBE DARIO IS RIGHT!
MAYBE THE GODDESS WILL COME BACK TO FIX THIS MESS!

DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT, MY FRIEND...
... BECAUSE YOUR WISH MAY COME TRUE!

SEE NEXT ISSUE FUZION FANZ :) !

VICTORY
COVER B
image
3 NOV $2.95 $3.90 CAN
CASSARO
FRANCISCO
COLD FUZION
IMAGECOMICS.COM

image® COMICS PRESENTS...

VICTORY ISSUE #3

FOR COLD FUZION STUDIOS

MARCELO CASSARO & PETRA LEÃO
PLOTS & SCRIPT:

EDU FRANCISCO
ART & INKS:

JACOBS LADDER
SCRIPTS FINISH:

ANDRÉ VAZZIOS, RICARDO RIAMONDE RÔMULO SOARES & TEAM COLD FUZION
COLORS, GRAPHICS & FX:

COVERS:
ROGER CRUZ, EDU FRANCISCO & ALUISIO DE SOUZA

EDITS BY:
DEREK O'GORMAN
KEVIN D. CAMPBELL

PRODUCED BY:
ALSHA LOPAC STEVENS (HBIC)
SARA JOANNA STEVENS

COLD FUZION STUDIOS
(THE FUZE HAS BEEN LIT!]
WWW.COLDFUZIONSTUDIOS.COM

FOR IMAGE COMICS OFFICE

JIM VALENTINO - PUBLISHER

BRENT BRAUN -
DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION

ERIC STEPHENSON -
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

TRACI HALE -
CONTROLLER / FOREIGN LICENSING

BRETT EVANS - ART DIRECTOR

ALLEN HUI - WEB DEVELOPER

CINDIE ESPINOZA -
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

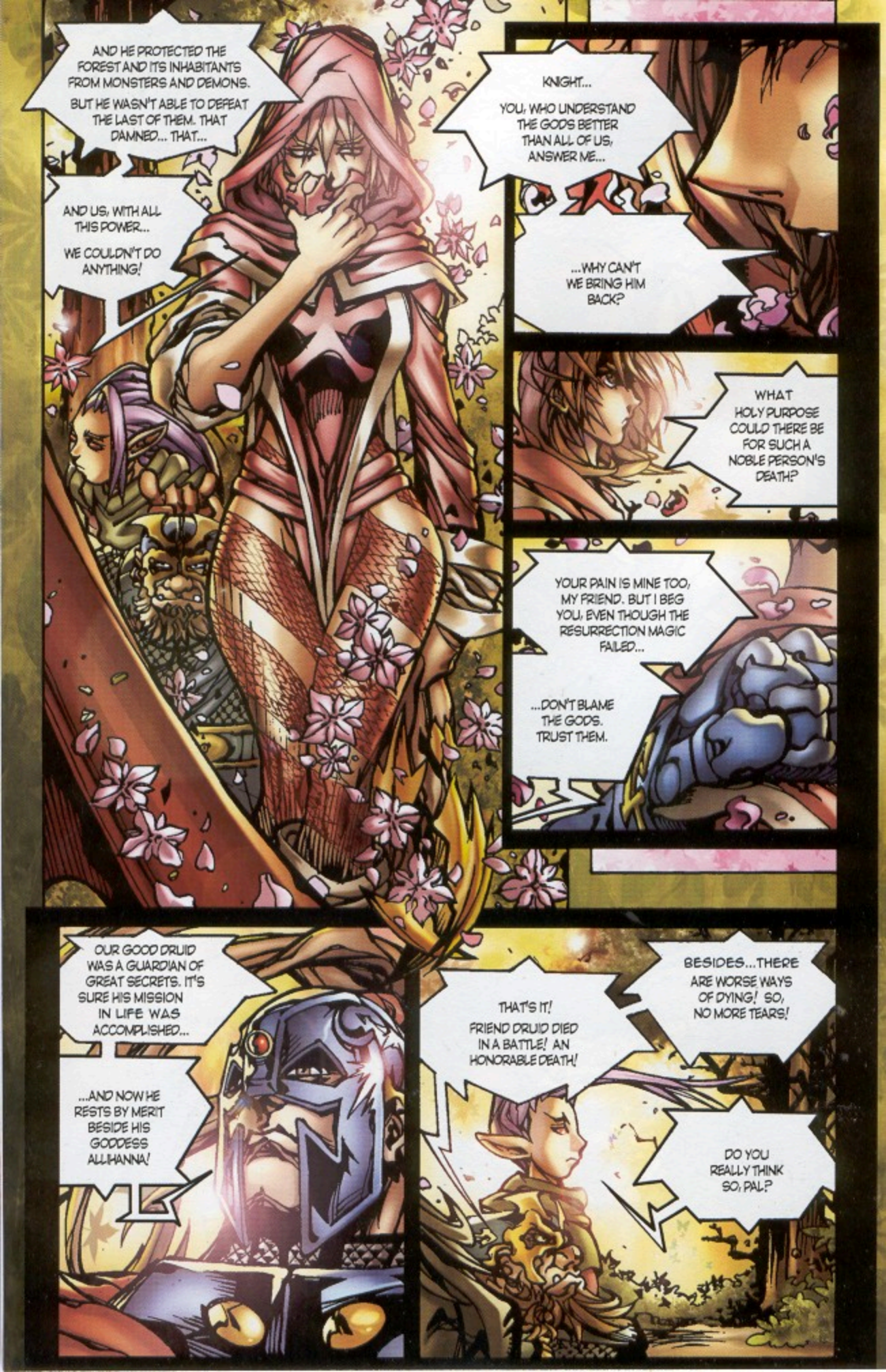
TIM HEGARTY -
BOOK TRADE COORDINATOR

JON MALIN -
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

PUBLISHED BY: **IMAGE COMICS**
www.imagecomics.com

Victory Vol. I #3. November 2003. First Printing. Published by Image Comics office of publication: 1071 N. Batavia St. Suite A, Orange, CA 92867. Image and its logos are ® and © 2003 Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Victory is ™ and © 2003 Editora Talisma. All rights reserved. The characters and situations presented in this book are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. The contents of this book may not be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder, except for artwork used for review purposes. Printed in USA.

STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
THE DRUID... OUR PARTNER...
DEAD...
THE FARMERS WERE AFRAID OF HIM! THEY CALLED HIM CRAZY! BUT HE DIDN'T MIND!
HE HAD A BIG HEART! HE LOVED ALL LIVING THINGS!
HE GAVE US SHELTER IN HIS HOLY FOREST DURING THE HARD DAYS!


AND HE PROTECTED THE FOREST AND ITS INHABITANTS FROM MONSTERS AND DEMONS.
BUT HE WASN'T ABLE TO DEFEAT THE LAST OF THEM. THAT DAMNED... THAT...
AND US, WITH ALL THIS POWER...
WE COULDN'T DO ANYTHING!
KNIGHT...
YOU, WHO UNDERSTAND THE GODS BETTER THAN ALL OF US, ANSWER ME...
...WHY CAN'T WE BRING HIM BACK?
WHAT HOLY PURPOSE COULD THERE BE FOR SUCH A NOBLE PERSON'S DEATH?
YOUR PAIN IS MINE TOO, MY FRIEND. BUT I BEG YOU, EVEN THOUGH THE RESURRECTION MAGIC FAILED...
...DON'T BLAME THE GODS. TRUST THEM.
OUR GOOD DRUID WAS A GUARDIAN OF GREAT SECRETS. IT'S SURE HIS MISSION IN LIFE WAS ACCOMPLISHED...
...AND NOW HE RESTS BY MERIT BESIDE HIS GODDESS ALLIHANNA!
THAT'S IT! FRIEND DRUID DIED IN A BATTLE! AN HONORABLE DEATH!
BESIDES...THERE ARE WORSE WAYS OF DYING! SO, NO MORE TEARS!
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO, PAL?

EASY TO TALK WHEN YOU WEAR A MASK THAT HIDES YOUR TEARS!
GRRR!
WHAT ABOUT A NICE PUNCH IN YOUR EYES, YOU FREAKY LITTLE ELF ?
IT WILL GO NICE WITH THE FOOT I AM ABOUT TO PUT IN YOUR...
PLEASE, YOU TWO. I KNOW YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT TESTING EACH OTHER'S PATIENCE...
...BUT, WHERE WE'RE ABOUT TO ENTER, SUCH FEELINGS HAVE NO PLACE.
NOW, LEAVE YOUR WEAPONS HERE, AND BRING ONLY PEACE WITHIN YOUR HEARTS...
...'CAUSE WE'RE VISITING SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T STAND ANY KIND OF VIOLENCE!
SHOW YOURSELF, WOOD NYMPH!
WE'RE HERE TO SHOW REVERENCE TO YOUR BENEVOLENCE...
...AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AGAINST THE EVIL FORCES!
MY...
...HELP?

DON'T MOCK ME, KNIGHT! I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING!
MY MAGIC FAILED TO BRING LIFE BACK TO THE DRUID! I WAS ABANDONED BY THE NATURE SPIRITS!
PLEASE... LEAVE ME ALONE WITH MY PAIN!

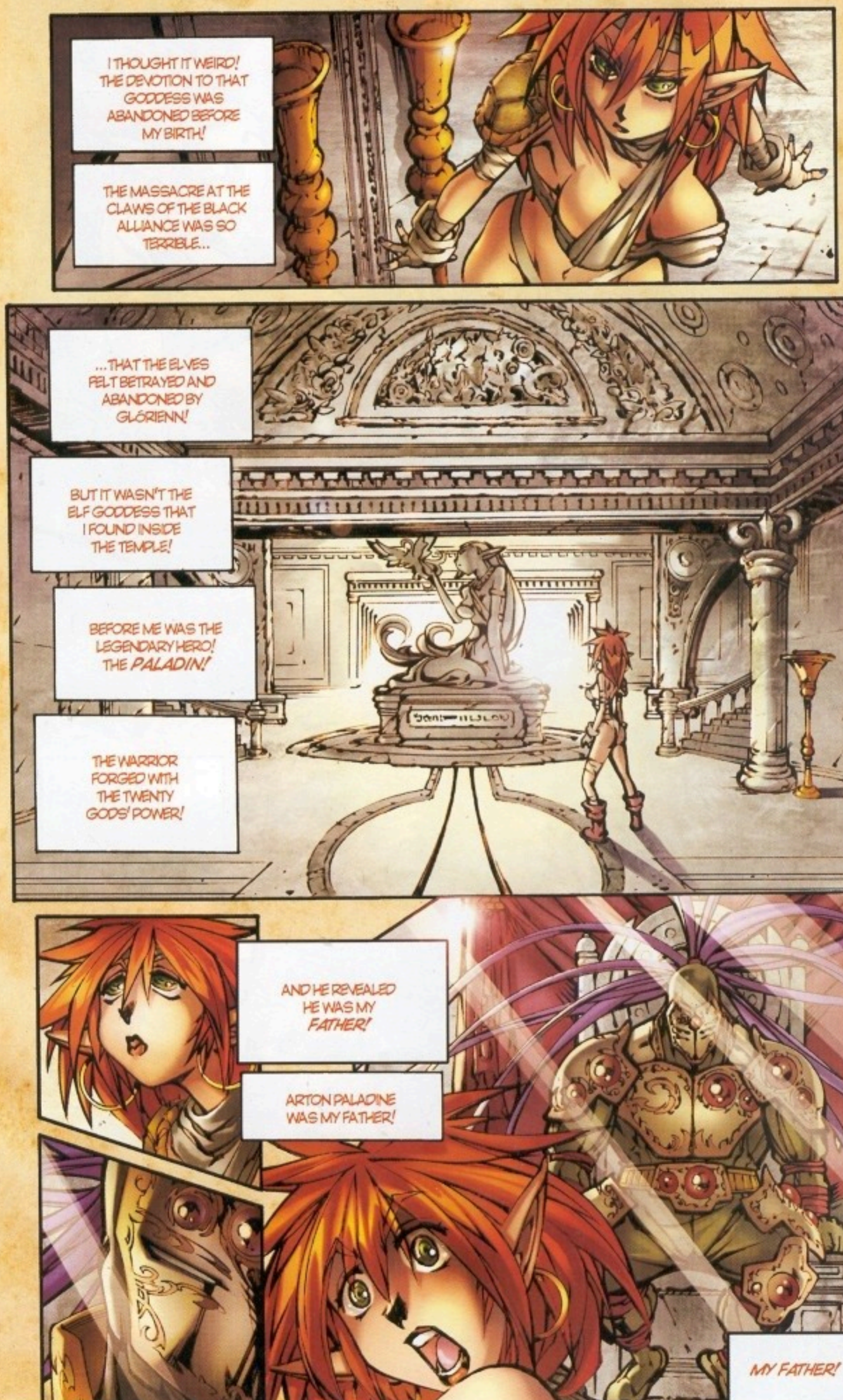
NO MY LADY, IT IS NOT RIGHT FOR YOU TO ENDURE THIS PAIN ALONE.
I DON'T DESERVE YOUR GRATITUDE! I DON'T DESERVE TO LIVE!
HE SPEAKS THE TRUTH LADY NYMPH! WE ALL OWE YOU A GREAT DEAL. YOU EXPELLED THE...
...DEMONIC HORDES THAT ATTACKED OUR FRIEND'S HOME ! YOU MUST ACCEPT OUR GRATITUDE !
I WANT TO BE ALONE! GO!
GUYS, LEAVE IT TO ME, ALL RIGHT?
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH A HURT LADY!
HEY, DWARF, LEARN SOMETHING FROM THE MASTER!
ELF! WHAT ARE YOU ...?
WELL, WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE? IS IT THE ELF GODDESS, HONORING THESE WOODS WITH HER PRESENCE?
NO, I DON'T THINK SO! EVEN THE GODDESS HERSELF ISN'T SO PRETTY AND GRACEFUL.
SEEING YOU SO SAD IS LIKE A CLAW SQUEEZING MY HEART, MAIDEN! DON'T HIDE YOUR SMILE ANYMORE!

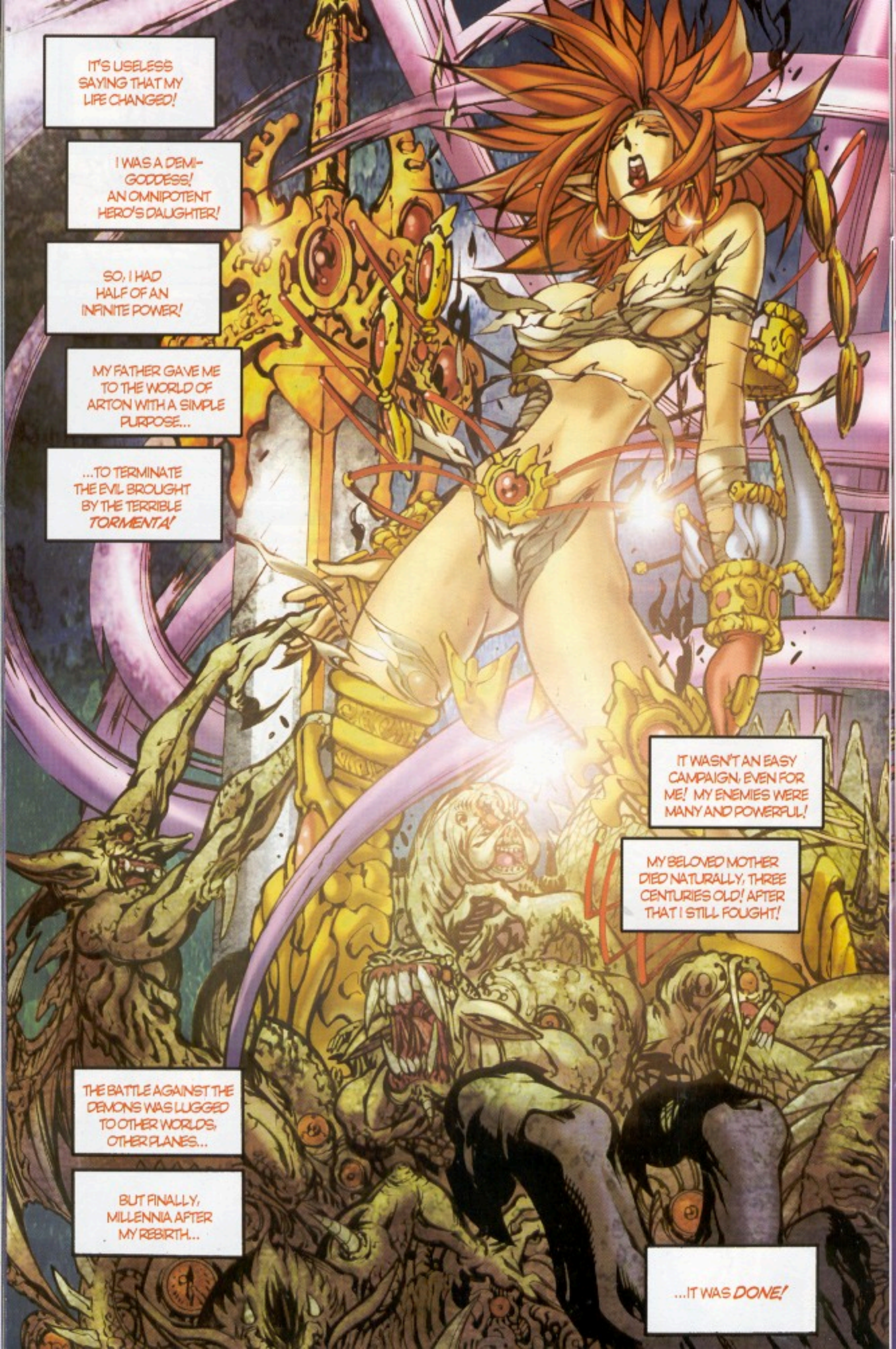
YOU DUMB CRAZY ELF! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
SHE'S A NYMPH! THE MOST DAZZLING BEAUTY IN EXISTENCE!
A SIMPLE VISION OF A NAKED NYMPH CAN KILL!
DON'T BE ABSURD, SORCERESS! EVEN IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO DIE THIS WAY...
...I DON'T THINK THERE COULD BE A BETTER WAY TO LEAVE THIS WORLD!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, NICE LADY?! OUR FRIEND THINKS IT'S DANGEROUS LOOKING AT YOU!
DON'T MIND HER! SHE'S JUST ENVIOUS OF... YOUR... YOUR...

BY THE TWENTY GODS!
THERE ARE THINGS THAT, CERTAINLY...
...ARE WORTH DYING FOR!
GUYS, LISTEN TO THE DREAM I HAD!
THERE WAS A DEMI-GODDESS ELF AND... NO, WAIT... THAT WAS ANOTHER DREAM! OR WAS IT?
THIS ELF BABE WAS RED-HAIRED, APPLE-GREEN EYES... AND SUCH CHARISMA, I'LL TELL YOU...
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, DARIO! IT'S OK!
EPIC CHARISMA LEVEL! SERIOUS!
NOW, LET'S TAKE A BREAK HERE...
...WHILE BIBS TALKS TO THE ELF!
HEY, GIRL... ELF... DEMI-GODDESS...
...YOU CAN'T REMAIN NAKED IN FRONT OF THESE BOYS!
BY THE WAY, HOW DID YOU GET TO FLAVIUS' HOME?

YOU'RE INCREDULOUS? THERE ARE FEW THINGS THAT A DEMI-GODDESS CAN'T DO!
BRENDA, MY LOVE! YOU WAITED SO LONG FOR MY RETURN! DID YOU WITNESS THE END?
AND SUFFER THE EMPTINESS LEFT BY THE GODS' DEPARTURE?
LADY... YOU'RE SAD, I KNOW, BUT PUT THIS ON, OK?
BESIDES... WHERE'S YOUR ARMOR FULL OF JEWELS AND TUBES?!
A DEMI-GODDESS DOESN'T NEED METALLIC PROTECTION! THE ARMOR IS MERELY A REFLECTION OF MY SPIRITUAL STATE...
...AND, BY NOW, I DON'T FEEL MYSELF GOLDEN AND SHINING!
HMMM... SOFT...
RIGHT... LOOK... DON'T YOU WANT TO TELL US WHO YOU ARE, AND WHERE YOU'RE FROM?
IT'LL HELP YOU TO FEEL BETTER! WE CALL THIS... "OPENING YOUR HEART"!
I REALLY NEED TO FEEL BETTER! SO, LET IT BE!
I'M VICTORIA, AND I COME FROM A WORLD THAT CERTAINLY ISN'T THIS ONE!

MY WORLD WAS ARTON! A LAND OF CASTLES, MAGIC, DRAGONS...
...AND ELVES! LOVERS OF NATURE, ARTS AND MAGIC! PASSIONATE FOR PEACE, BUT READY FOR A WAR!
WHEN I WAS BORN, OUR PEOPLE WERE ALMOST DESTROYED BY THE TERRIBLE GOBLINOIDS' BLACK ALLIANCE...
...BUT THE LEGENDARY FLAMING ARROW WAS FOUND, KEEPING THE PROPHECY AND DESTROYING THE EVIL ARMY!
I WAS HAPPY TO GROW UP IN A TIME OF GLORY AND RENEWAL!
THEN, WHEN I REACHED MATURITY AT SEVENTY YEARS OLD...
...MOM ASKED ME TO ENTER THE GLORIENN TEMPLE!


I THOUGHT IT WEIRD! THE DEVOTION TO THAT GODDESS WAS ABANDONED BEFORE MY BIRTH!
THE MASSACRE AT THE CLAWS OF THE BLACK ALLIANCE WAS SO TERRIBLE...
...THAT THE ELVES FELT BETRAYED AND ABANDONED BY GLORIENN!
BUT IT WASN'T THE ELF GODDESS THAT I FOUND INSIDE THE TEMPLE!
BEFORE ME WAS THE LEGENDARY HERO! THE PALADIN!
THE WARRIOR FORGED WITH THE TWENTY GODS' POWER!
AND HE REVEALED HE WAS MY FATHER!
ARTON PALADINE WAS MY FATHER!
MY FATHER!


IT'S USELESS SAYING THAT MY LIFE CHANGED!
I WAS A DEMI-GODDESS! AN OMNIPOTENT HERO'S DAUGHTER!
SO, I HAD HALF OF AN INFINITE POWER!
MY FATHER GAVE ME TO THE WORLD OF ARTON WITH A SIMPLE PURPOSE...
...TO TERMINATE THE EVIL BROUGHT BY THE TERRIBLE TORMENTA!
IT WASN'T AN EASY CAMPAIGN, EVEN FOR ME! MY ENEMIES WERE MANY AND POWERFUL!
MY BELOVED MOTHER DIED NATURALLY, THREE CENTURIES OLD! AFTER THAT I STILL FOUGHT!
THE BATTLE AGAINST THE DEMONS WAS LUGGED TO OTHER WORLDS, OTHER PLANES...
BUT FINALLY, MILLENNIA AFTER MY REBIRTH...
...IT WAS DONE!

TORMENTA WAS DEFEATED! ARTON WAS SAFE AGAIN!
MY FATHER DECIDED TO SEND ME TO THE ASTRAL PLANE!
IT WAS A PEACEFUL AND SILENT PLACE, WHERE THE MIND DOESN'T NOTICE THE ERAS PASSING!
I RESTED THERE, TO RETURN WHEN EVIL ROSE AGAIN!
AND THUS, THE CLERGYMEN FROM THYATIS, THE PROPHETS' GOD, SAID...
THERE WILL BE A TIME OF SCIENCE AND DRYNESS, WITHOUT ENCHANTMENT OR MAGIC! THE PILGRIMS WILL UNMASK AN ANCIENT HORROR...
...AND THEN INVOKE THE ONLY ONE CAPABLE OF STOPPING HIM!
AND HERE I AM! AS SAID IN THE PROPHECY!
BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT SUCH CHANGES!

WHERE ARE THE PEOPLE THAT I FOUGHT FOR? WHERE ARE THE ELVES, DWARVES, AND FAIRIES?
WHAT KIND OF HELL IS THIS, INFESTED WITH METALLIC BUGS...
...WHICH CARRY THEIR LIVING VICTIMS IN TRANSPARENT STOMACHS?
BUGS? AH, YES... WE CALL THEM CARS!
AND WHAT ABOUT THE PANTHEON? WHERE ARE THE MAJOR DIVINITIES?
MY FATHER! HIS BROTHERS, SISTERS, SONS...
AND THE LITTLE TORIS? WE HAD ROWS SOMETIMES, BUT...
HA-HA!
LeT Me eXplaiN, Pal!
ThE feMale elf HAs half oF an iNFiniTE POWER!
But tHE aBiliTy to BRing the DEad baCk to Life...
WAIT! IF YOU HAVE SUCH POWER...
...WHY WERE YOU USELESS AT REVIVING THE DRUID?

...it bELongS To tHE OTHER HALF!
RIGHT, CHICK?
No SILLY DiVINE mAgic hEre, MisSY!
No rAisE DEadS!
KR KRAGHH

GENERAL KAROLEI !
YOU..KNOW WHERE MY FATHER IS?
SurE, GirL!
He's beEN in The SAme place for thREe eraS!
He iS DEAD!
YOur fUCkinG dADdy dOesN'T eXist ANymORe!
no ONe to sAVe YOur ELven ASs!

WHat's up, chicK? HArd To REGENERATE?
Your POWeR dePEnds on FEELING GOOD, RIGHT?
THat's it! ThE woRLd yoU Knew BEfore DIED!
You CAn't fight WithoUT a HOME to ProtECt!
YOu've ONly goT poWer whEn You'RE HAppy And TripPing...
Ouch!
YO, BRISKY!
SO WHAT NOW, LALO? COOL! WE GOT HIS ATTENTION!
BUT WHAT NOW? WHAT'S THE PLAN?
PLAN...?!

AH, BOYS!
You SHould STay awaY FROm BOoks! Away frOM thE TRUTH!
WhY Don't You PLay on the intERnet, liKe all THe other bRatS?
LiTtle ADOLPH's gOT sKillS!
We sHOuld bUild aNotHer firE SomeDAy!
LEAVE ME ALONE! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO REGENERATE!
YOU WERE SMART, KAROLE! I ADMIT!
WhAt thE Fuc...?

YOU TOOK ADVANTAGE OF MY MOMENT OF WEAKNESS!
YOU COULD'VE DESTROYED ME RIGHT NOW AND I WOULD'VE ACCEPTED IT.
BUT YOU FAILED WHEN YOU ATTACKED THE BOYS!
THE MOST VALUABLE THINGS TO ME AT THIS MOMENT!
YOU DESERVE TO DIE FOR THIS!
CAreFUL, cHicK...
...or I sQUeeze thE EntRAils...
...fROm this...?
MY ARM!
NOT AGAIN!

THIS HIDEOUS WORLD MIGHT BE EMPTY OF ENCHANTED BEINGS...
...BUT THEY STILL EXIST WITHIN THESE YOUNG WIZARDS! AND I'LL DO EVERYTHING TO PROTECT THEM!
AND MAKE THIS MY CAUSE! MY REASON FOR EXISTENCE, TO FIGHT AND LAUGH!
LET YOUR PROFANE CREATOR BEWARE!

AND DON'T BELIEVE YOU'LL BE REVIVED BY YOUR LORD, KAROLE!...
K'ATHANOA WILL PERISH BEFORE THIS DAY IS DONE! I SWEAR!
JUST A SEC! THIS KAROLE! WAS AN AVATAR? AN INCARNATION OF DIVINE POWER?
SO THIS K'ATHANOA IS A GOD,? AND DO YOU INTEND TO FIGHT AGAINST HIM?
NOT MERELY FIGHT, YOUNG MASTER! TERMINATE!
I APPRECIATED HOW ALL OF YOU TRIED TO PROTECT ME!
LET ME SHOW ALL MY THANKFULNESS!
SMAK!!
LOOK... DON'T GET ME WRONG, VIC...
...BUT, FOR ME, JUST A THANKS IS ENOUGH!
SMAK
SMAK
THE PACIFIC OCEAN, SOUTH OF AUSTRALIA...
WE'VE GOT POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF THE WRECKAGE, SIR.
IT REALLY WAS THE ASW! NO SURVIVORS!
THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER INVINCIBLE INTERRUPTS ITS EXERCISES TO INVESTIGATE A PLANE CRASH NEARBY.

CAPTAIN... SIR... SONAR'S GONE MAD!
IT SAYS THE BOTTOM IS...
IS... LESS THAN THREE HUNDRED METERS BELOW!
WHAT A RIDICULOUS NOTION, KAMINSKI! WE'RE OVER THE MARIANAS!
THERE'S NO DEEPER PLACE ON EARTH!
THAT'S NOT ALL, SIR! EVERYTHING IS MOVING ON THE SCREEN! IT SEEMS THAT THE BOTTOM IS RISING UP!
THERE MUST BE A DEFECT IN THE EQUIPM...
WAIT! THOSE FORMS ON RADAR!
LOOK LIKE... GOD!
NO! THIS CANNOT BE HAPPENING!
FOR GOD'S SAKE, STOP IT!
TO BE CONTINUED...

COVER A
image
4
FEB
$2.95
$3.90 CAN
VICTORY
IMAGECOMICS.COM
00411
7 09853 10556 5
CASSARO
FRANCISCO
COLD FUZION
ROGER CRUZ
2001

image® COMICS PRESENTS...

FOR COLD FUZION STUDIOS

MARCELO CASSARO & PETRA LEÃO
PLOTS & SCRIPT:

EDU FRANCISCO
ART & INKS:

JACOBS LADDER
SCRIPTS FINISH:

ANDRÉ VAZZIOS, RICARDO RIAMONDE
RÔMULO SOARES & TEAM COLD FUZION
COLORS, GRAPHICS & FX:

COVERS:
EDU FRANCISCO
& ROGER CRUZ

EDITS BY:
DEREK O'GORMAN

PRODUCED BY:
ALSHA L. STEVENS (HBIC)
SARA JOANNA STEVENS
KEVIN D. CAMPBELL

COLD FUZION STUDIOS
(THE FUZE HAS BEEN LIT!]
WWW.COLDFUZIONSTUDIOS.COM

FOR IMAGE COMICS OFFICE

ERIK LARSEN - PUBLISHER
TODD MCFARLANE - PRESIDENT
MARC SILVESTRI - CEO
JIM VALENTINO - VICE-PRESIDENT

ERIC STEPHENSON -
MANAGING EDITOR

TRACI HALE -
CONTROLLER / FOREIGN LICENSING

BRETT EVANS - ART DIRECTOR

ALLEN HUI - WEB DEVELOPER

CINDIE ESPINOZA -
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

TIM HEGARTY -
BOOK TRADE COORDINATOR

JON MALIN - PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

PUBLISHED BY: **IMAGE COMICS**
www.imagecomics.com

COVER A

COVER B

CHASE COVER C

Victory Vol. I #4. February 2004. First Printing. Published by Image Comics office of publication: 1071 N. Batavia St. Suite A, Orange, CA 92867.
Image and its logos are ® and © 2004 Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Victory is ™ and © 2004 Editora Talisma. All rights reserved. The characters and situations presented in this book are fictional. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. The contents of this book may not be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder, except for artwork used for review purposes. Printed in USA.

CVN-65 IS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER PROUDLY DUBBED "THE INVINCIBLE" U.S.S. ENTERPRISE. IT WAS AUTHORIZED IN 1958, AND COMMISSIONED IN 1962, WITH PLANS TO BE DECOMMISSIONED IN THE YEAR 2013.
THE SHIP AND HER CREW HAVE BEEN CALLED TO DUTY ON COUNTLESS OCCASIONS AND HAVE ALWAYS EMERGED VICTORIOUS.
WITH ITS FLAWLESS RECORD, THE NUCLEAR-POWERED VESSEL KNOWN AS THE INVINCIBLE IS THE PRIDE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN FLEET.
... THEY WOULD MOST LIKELY TAKE THEM AS INTERESTING FICTION.
IT WOULD NOT MATTER TO THIS FINE CREW HOWEVER, BECAUSE THEY ARE THE BEST THERE IS AT WHAT THEY DO...
DURING THE CREW'S TOUR OF DUTY, THE CVN-65 HAS SEEN MANY THINGS THAT ARE UNTHINKABLE, SOMETIMES EVEN UNEXPLAINABLE.
IF THE AVERAGE LAND LOVER WERE TO HEAR A FEW TALES OF SEA LIFE FROM THE CREW OF THE INVINCIBLE...
... AND COUNTLESS TIMES OVER THEY HAVE PROVEN THAT THEY ARE WORTHY TO SERVE IN THE DIVISION OF THE SUPER-ELITE.
PROTECTING & SERVING BOTH COUNTRY AND CREW, THE CREW OF THE INVINCIBLE FEELS THERE IS NO THREAT THAT THEY ARE NOT EQUIPPED TO HANDLE.
THAT BELIEF HELD TRUE, UNTIL NOW.
NOW THEY MUST LEARN A HARD LESSON. THAT PAST VICTORIES MEAN NOTHING IN THE FACE OF PRESENT DANGER.

THEY ARE WITNESSING A NIGHTMARE THAT HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN BY MORTAL EYES.
THE CREW FINDS KEEPING THEIR SANITY IN CHECK IS INDEED A CHORE...
AND THEY ARE UNABLE TO PUT UP ANY KIND OF DEFENSE AGAINST THE MONSTROSITY BEFORE THEM. NOT THAT THEIR COUNTERATTACK WOULD HAVE DONE ANY GOOD...
WHEN THE HIGHEST CLOUD IN THE SKY BARELY TOUCHES ITS ANKLES.
IT STANDS ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHT THOUSAND METERS TALL...
AT A HEIGHT OF 108 KILOMETERS, THE BEAST'S HEAD REACHES WELL INTO THE THERMOSPHERE.
ITS TENTACLES (THAT ARE CURRENTLY CRUSHING THE HULL OF THE ENTERPRISE) ARE AT LEAST...

...ONE KILOMETER THICK AND ABOUT ONE HUNDRED KILOMETERS LONG.
EACH STEP OF THE BEAST MEASURES AN INCREDIBLE FIFTY KILOMETERS ...
... THAT HE COVERS IN A MERE TWO SECONDS.

THE BEAST'S NAME IS K'ATHANOA.
AND IN A WORD... HE IS A GOD.
AN ETERNAL GOD DRIVEN SOLELY BY EVIL, BUT A GOD NONETHELESS.
K'ATHANOA EXISTED ON THE EARTH BEFORE THE DINOSAURS...
... BEFORE RECORDED TIME, BEFORE LIFE ITSELF.
HIS ANCIENT EVIL (ONCE DEFEATED BY THE MIGHT OF THE PALADIN), HAS BEEN LAYING IN WAIT HERE ON EARTH UNTIL HE COULD AMASS ENOUGH POWER TO EXACT HIS REVENGE.
WITH EACH PASSING SECOND, K'ATHANOA'S POWERS GROW BEYOND MEASURE...
THE LEGION OF FOLLOWERS THAT K'ATHANOA HAS GATHERED IS UNCOUNTABLE, AND VIRTUALLY INCONCEIVABLE.
K'ATHANOA HAS OBTAINED POWER GREAT ENOUGH TO DEFEAT THE LEGENDARY "INFINITE POWER"...
AND NOW SEEKS TO EXPUNGE THAT POWER FROM THE UNIVERSE SO THAT THERE WILL BE NO POWER THAT CAN RIVAL HIS OWN.

ELSEWHERE. VICTORIA (THE CURRENT WIELDER OF A POWER OF INFINITY) FEELS THE AWAKENING OF THE EVIL GOD'S PRESENCE ALONG WITH ITS IMMENSURABLE POWER.
WITH HER ARE HER NEWFOUND FRIENDS, WHO ARE ORDINARY CHILDREN, WHO HAVE BEEN THRUST INTO A CONFLICT THAT WOULD BE BEYOND ADULT COMPREHENSION, BUT NOT THEIRS.
DARIO, TAKASHI, LALO AND BIBS ARE STILL IN SHOCK FROM THE BATTLE THAT THEY HAVE JUST WITNESSED...
IT WOULD SEEM THAT MY ABSENCE HAS MADE THE FOLLOWERS OF K'ATHANOA UNWISE. TO THINK SOMEONE AS WEAK AS KAROLEI...
... COULD BEST THE MIGHT OF INFINITY WOULD BE FUNNY, IF IT WAS NOT SO PATHETIC. *
VICTORIA? K'ATHANOA IS A GOD, RIGHT? AND YOU ARE GONNA GO AND TAKE HIM ON? UNREAL!
AND THE REMAINS OF THE CREATURE KAROLEI, LYING DEAD AT THEIR FEET.
THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN ANY GAMER'S GREATEST FANTASY MADE REALITY...
... IF IT WAS NOT SO NIGHTMARISH.
* SEE LAST ISSUE ! - JACOB -

WHAT CHOICE DO I HAVE, YOUNG MASTER? AT THIS MOMENT, K'ATHANOA HAS MADE ...
HIS PRESENCE KNOWN TO YOUR KINDAND THEY STAND BEFORE HIM, HELPLESS AND IN HORROR.
THESE EVENTS ARE SIMILAR TO WHAT TRANSPIRED ON ARTON.
I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY HE IS HERE ON YOUR WORLD.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT... I SUDDENLY SMELL TROUBLE...
HOWEVER, I WILL NOT ALLOW HIM TO ROAM FREE AGAIN!
MY FATHER DEFEATED HIM ON ARTON; MY MISSION IS TO DO THE SAME HERE ON EARTH.

THE PACIFIC OCEAN, SOUTH OF AUSTRALIA.
ONLY A FEW PLANES MANAGED TO SCRAMBLE FROM THE DECK OF THE ENTERPRISE...
BEFORE THE MIGHT OF K'ATHANOA SANK HER BENEATH THE OCEAN.
FOX-3 TO BASE! FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, PLEASE RESPOND!
DAMN, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU GUYS ARE GETTING THIS. BUT THESE ...
THESE CREATURES' NUMBERS MUST BE IN THE HIGH MILLIONS! THEY COVER THE WHOLE DAMN RADAR SCREEN AND THEY'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR SYDNEY.
ET A SOMEWHERE AROUND... DEAR GOD NO!
IT'LL BE A MASSACRE IF THEY... WHAT?
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, KNIGHT OF THE HEAVENS...
... BUT THIS FIGHT IS OF MY HERITAGE AND THEREFORE BELONGS TO ME!
REMOVE YOUR FLYING METALLIC STEED AND BEAR WITNESS TO HOW GODS DO BATTLE!

SO, MY VICTIMS, YOUR ARMY BRINGS DARKNESS TO HEAVENS DOOR YET AGAIN, HUH? THERE ARE SO ...
MANY WAYS THAT I CAN END THIS, BUT I WILL LET YOU DECIDE.
SO TELL ME, HOW DO YOU WANT IT?
OH? QUICK AND PAINFUL, YOU SAY? SURE, I CAN DO THAT. I'LL TAKE PLEASURE IN KNOWING THAT THE LAST VISION YOU WILL SEE...
WILL BE OF THE POWER OF THE GREAT DRAGONS. THESE ABOMINATIONS YOU CREATE WILL NOT CHANGE THE OUTCOME OF THIS FIGHT, K'ATHANOA!
... TO ONE THAT WIELDS INFINITE POWER! IT WAS USED TO DEFEAT YOU ONCE AND IT SHALL DO SO AGAIN!
AND YOU OF ALL THE EVIL GODS SHOULD KNOW THAT NUMBERS MAKE NO DIFFERENCE...

AN AVATAR-PETARD IS A LIVING CREATURE MERGED WITH A BLADE THAT IS GIVEN TO SERVE AS A COMPANION TO THE ONE CHOSEN TO WIELD THE INFINITE POWER.
THE FELINE AVATAR-PETARD THAT TRANSFORMS INTO VICTORIA'S WEAPON OF CHOICE IS NAMED BRENDA.
HER NAME MEANS "SWORD OF BEAUTY " IN AN ANCIENT TEUTONIC LANGUAGE.
IT IS A MYSTICAL WEAPON FORGED OF COSMIC STEEL WHICH BURNS WITH THE HEART OF A STAR.
WITH ONE STROKE, MILLIONS OF K'ATHANOA'S LEGIONS FALL IN AN INSTANT.
WHAT TOOK OVER A MILLENNIUM TO GENERATE,
IS DEFEATED WITHIN MINUTES.
THIS IS NOTHING TOO GREAT FOR ONE WHO JUDGES POWER...
... IN MEASURES OF INFINITY...
WITH THE POWER OF A GOD, K'ATHANOA TAKES NOTICE OF THE MIGHT OF INFINITY...
BUT HE IS NOT IMPRESSED.

REACHING FAR BEYOND THE HEAVENS, THE EARTH SHAKES IN EXCITEMENT FROM K'ATHANOA'S UNCONTROLLABLE DESIRE FOR VENGEANCE.
THE DAUGHTER OF HIS MOST HATED ENEMY IS BEFORE HIM, AND HER DEATH IS ALL HE DESIRES.
K'ATHANOA REALIZES THAT THE GREAT COSMIC POWER THAT THE DAUGHTER OF THE PALADIN WIELDS IS FORMIDABLE...
... BUT HE DOES NOT FEAR THAT POWER.
DESPITE HER WORDS, K'ATHANOA SENSES THE FEAR WITHIN THIS CHILD WHO FEELS ABANDONED AND LONELY.
HE ALSO KNOWS HER LACK OF EXPERIENCE WILL TIP THE ODDS GREATLY IN HIS FAVOR, AND WITH THIS KNOWLEDGE...

K'ATHANOA FEARLESSLY INITIATES THE FIRST ATTACK, AND IT IS AN IMPRESSIVE ONE.
THE AKUMAITOKOSEN IS AN ATTACK K'ATHANOA ONCE USED TO DESTROY ALL OF THE ELVES' COMMUNICATION SATELLITES ON ARTON.
THE ENERGY THAT IS RELEASED SENDS VICTORIA HURTLING INTO ORBIT...
AND DECREASES THE EARTH'S OZONE LAYER BY AT LEAST 12%.
FIRST BLOOD IS DRAWN...
55 MILLION KILOMETERS AWAY FROM THE POINT WHERE HER JOURNEY BEGAN VICTORIA'S UNAUTHORIZED TRIP...
... FINALLY COMES TO AN END.
GOOD SHOT, K'ATHANOA! THERE IS NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT YOU HAVE THE POWER OF THE GODS.
BUT CERTAINLY YOU DID NOT BELIEVE THAT A LOW LEVEL ATTACK LIKE THAT WOULD...
"... BRING AN END TO A BATTLE?"
VICTORIA'S IMPACT SHATTERS ONE OF THE PHANTOM MOONS OF MARS...
LEAVING THE RED PLANET WITH JUST ONE NATURAL SATELLITE.
THIS IS GOING TO BE A GLORIOUS BATTLE.
SO GLORIOUS THAT THE MUSES SHALL WRITE SONGS THAT WILL BE SUNG...
FOR THE NEXT TEN THOUSAND YEARS.

VICTORIA REENTERS EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE WITHIN MINUTES OF HER DEPARTURE FROM MARS, AND WITHOUT A SOUND.
ONLY K'ATHANOA'S TRANSCENDENTAL PERCEPTION ALLOWS HIM TO TAKE NOTICE OF THE DEMI-GODDESS'S RETURN.
BUT REALIZATION IS TWO SECONDS TOO LATE AND...
... THE MUTILATION OF HIS 54 KILOMETER ARM IS THE PRICE THE EVIL ONE PAYS.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THE PAIN, MONSTER? IS IT THE SAME PAIN YOU FELT...
... WHEN MY FATHER DEFEATED YOU? OH I HOPE SO.
IT'S NOT A FRACTION OF THE PAIN YOU HAVE CAUSED COUNTLESS OTHERS.
HOWEVER, THE COURAGE TO DEFY A GOD FADES QUICKLY, WHEN THE LIGHT OF THE HEAVENS IS REMOVED...
... FROM ONE'S SIGHT. EVEN FOR VICTORIA, WHO HAS SEEN IT ALL, THE VISION BEFORE HER IS A TERRIFYING IMAGE.
FEAR QUICKLY CONSUMES VICTORIA, AND THAT EMOTION LEADS TO HESITATION.
AND HESITATION LEADS TO DOUBT, WHICH HAS NO PLACE IN A BATTLE OF A COSMIC LEVEL...
SKRUU!
BECAUSE THAT SAME DOUBT IS WHAT WILL GET YOU ...
KILLED.

HOWEVER, FEAR CAN BE A POWERFUL MOTIVATOR WHEN IT DRIVES YOU TO EXCEL.
DAMN, THAT WAS RATHER DESPERATE, K'ATHANOA.
HOW DARE YOU USE SUCH A LOW-RENT ATTACK ON ME? I GUESS THE REMOVAL OF YOUR EYE...
WILL BE A SUITABLE PUNISHMENT TO SHOW YOU THE ERROR OF YOUR VULGAR WAYS.
YOU CANNOT WIN, BEAST! THIS I'M SURE OF! HOWEVER, I AM NOT TOO SURE OF THIS WORLD...
SURVIVING THE OUTCOME OF OUR BATTLE.

"AT THIS RATE, THIS DUEL COULD LAST FOR DECADES, USING THESE WEAK-LEVELED ATTACKS."
"AND EVEN WITH ME USING SHIELD OF THE WARD MAGICAL BARRIER AROUND THE EARTH, IT IS STILL BEING TORN APART."
"WHAT A WEAK WORLD THIS EARTH IS, IT'S TOO FRAGILE AND NOT EVEN HALF AS STRONG AS ARTON."
"HOWEVER..."
I MUST BRING THIS TO AN END QUICKLY FOR THE SAKE OF THE YOUNG MASTERS.
BE DAMNED FOR ETERNITY, K'ATHANOA! FOR YOU HAVE LEFT ME NO CHOICE BUT TO INVOKE...
...THE POWER OF THE UNTHINKABLE! THE STELLAR...
DEATH ATTACK IS ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL ATTACKS IN THE ARSENAL OF THE INFINITE POWER.
AN ATTACK THAT ALL GODS MUST SUCCUMB TO!
"BUT SUCH A POWERFUL ATTACK HAS A PRICE."

ALTAIR, TEN TIMES GREATER IN SOLAR ENERGY THAN THE EARTH'S SUN, AND THE BRIGHTEST STAR IN THE HEAVENS. FIVE PARSECS AWAY FROM EARTH, ITS LIGHT TAKES SIXTEEN YEARS TO REACH US. BUT, IN A SECOND, ALTAIR IS GONE.
NO EXPLOSION. NO SUPERNOVA. NO BLACK HOLES... NO ANYTHING. ALTAIR JUST VANISHES WITHOUT A TRACE. THE RAW SOLAR POWER FROM THE STAR'S DESTRUCTION IS CONVERTED INTO ENERGY IN ITS PUREST FORM.
AND THAT ENERGY IS FOCUSED LIGHT YEARS AWAY IN THE GLEAMING BLADE OF BRENDA.
THOUGH THIS IS THE END-ALL -OF-ALL- ATTACKS, IT IS ONE THAT THE WIELDER OF THE INFINITE POWER NEVER DARED TO USE, AND IT WAS CONSIDERED "UNTHINKABLE".
IF ALTAIR HAD BEEN A STAR ORBITED BY AN INHABITABLE PLANET, EVERYTHING ON THAT WORLD WOULD BE EITHER DEAD OR DYING.

UNDERSTAND THE REASON BEHIND MY FURY, K'ATHANOA.
EVERY TIME THIS ATTACK IS USED, A SUN MUST DIE!
THIS TIME, UNLIKE BEFORE, IT WAS A SUN ALONE, WITHOUT AN INHABITED WORLD.
I WAS LUCKY THIS TIME, BUT I AM NOT WILLING TO EVER TAKE THAT KIND OF CHANCE EVER AGAIN.
I DON'T KNOW IF FATHER COULD EVER FORGIVE ME IF I DESTROYED AN INHABITED WORLD.
"I DO NOT KNOW IF I COULD FORGIVE MYSELF!"
THE UNIMAGINABLE POWER OF THE STELLAR DEATH ATTACK COULD DESTROY THE EARTH A MILLION TIMES OVER.
BUT, WITH THE PRECISION OF A SURGEON...
... THE DEMI-GODDESS CONTROLS THE POWER SO THAT IT ONLY ENLIGHTENS...
... THE WHOLE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE...

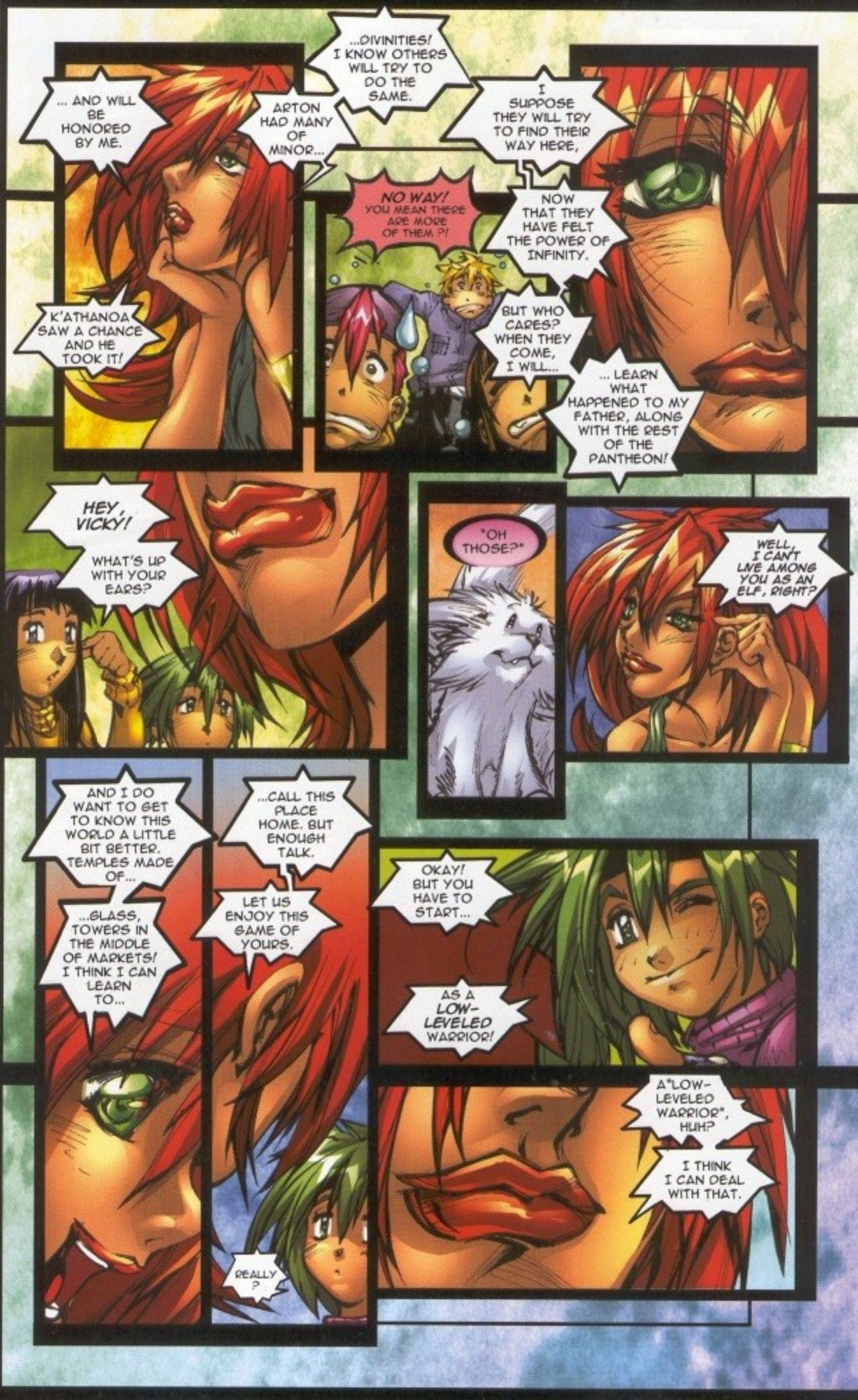
... AND BRINGS AN END TO THE GOD OF EVIL'S ETERNAL THREAT.
K'ATHANOA'S BODY ONCE AGAIN RETURNS TO THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.
THE LEVEL OF THE SEA RETURNS TO NORMAL EVERYWHERE...

... BUT HIS DECOMPOSITION WILL POLLUTE THE AUSTRALIAN COAST FOR MONTHS.
"I KNOW THAT YOU FELT I WOULD BE AN EASY KILL BECAUSE OF THE ABSENCE OF MY FATHER..."
"... FOR A MINUTE, I BELIEVED THIS TOO. I DARE NOT LIE TO YOU OR MYSELF."
K'ATHANOA, I KNOW THAT THIS IS NOT THE END. GODS DON'T DIE LIKE THIS,
NOT EVEN EVIL ONES LIKE YOU. HOWEVER, I WILL TAKE SOLACE IN...
KNOWING IT WILL TAKE UNCOUNTABLE YEARS FOR YOU TO REVIVE.
FAREWELL, YOUNG MASTERS.
I TOO MUST SADLY LEAVE.
AND THE THREAT DISAPPEARS AS QUICKLY AS IT APPEARED. AND ONCE AGAIN, EARTH IS LEFT WITHOUT AN ANGEL.

MONTHS LATER IN AN IMMENSE CAVE FOUND IN ANOTHER REALITY ...
...A REALITY ONLY ACCESSIBLE TO THOSE GIFTED WITH IMAGINATION.
GO ON FIGHTING, GUYS! THIS BATTLE WILL BE SUNG BY...
THE BARDS! THIS DAY THE EIGHT-HEADED DRAGON KING WILL KNOW DEFEAT!
ENOUGH WITH THE SILLINESS!
WHO DARES?
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU LITTLE RUBBERNECK KIDS NOT TO PLAY YOUR STUPID LITTLE GAME HERE!
IF YOU WANNA PLAY HERE, LEARN TO PLAY SOMETHING NORMAL, LIKE BLACKJACK OR SOMETHING.

LISTEN, YOU RENT-A-COP!
WHY DON'T YOU BEAT IT?
WE'RE TRYING TO RELAX OVER HERE!
NO WAY! QUIT YAPPING YOUR TRAPS AND GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
NO NEED TO BE HARSH, GUARDIAN.
...
I KNOW YOU'RE JUST KEEPING THE PEACE IN YOUR TEMPLE, BUT AWAY WITH YOU.
ALLOW MY FRIENDS TO ENJOY THEIR GAMES, AND I WILL MAKE SURE ...
... THAT WE WILL KEEP THE SHOUTING TO A MODERATE LEVEL! OK?

WELL, IF YOU'RE HERE... I GUESS IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT...
YOU HAVE MY WORD, AS WELL AS MY GRATITUDE, GUARDIAN!
VICTORIA! OH MY GOD...
YOU'RE ALIVE!
YES, I AM, YOUNG MASTER!
I MISSED YOU ALL.
ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU HOW MUCH!
SSMACK
ME NEXT! ME NEXT!
FORGIVE MY ABSENCE, YOUNG ONES! THERE WAS MUCH...
...DAMAGE I HAD TO REPAIR.
I AM GLAD YOU'RE OKAY.
YEAH, VICKY! THAT WAS SOME SCARE YOU GAVE US.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE...
DEAD? DON'T BE FOOLISH, YOUNG MISTRESS!
I AM AND ALWAYS WILL BE WITH YOU!
THIS WAS PROCLAIMED BY MY...
FATHER...


... AND WILL BE HONORED BY ME.
ARTON HAD MANY OF MINOR...
...DIVINITIES! I KNOW OTHERS WILL TRY TO DO THE SAME.
I SUPPOSE THEY WILL TRY TO FIND THEIR WAY HERE,
K'ATHANOA SAW A CHANCE AND HE TOOK IT!
NO WAY! YOU MEAN THERE ARE MORE OF THEM.?!
NOW THAT THEY HAVE FELT THE POWER OF INFINITY.
BUT WHO CARES? WHEN THEY COME, I WILL...
... LEARN WHAT HAPPENED TO MY FATHER, ALONG WITH THE REST OF THE PANTHEON!
HEY, VICKY!
WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR EARS?
"OH THOSE?"
WELL, I CAN'T LIVE AMONG YOU AS AN ELF, RIGHT?
AND I DO WANT TO GET TO KNOW THIS WORLD A LITTLE BIT BETTER. TEMPLES MADE OF...
...GLASS, TOWERS IN THE MIDDLE OF MARKETS! I THINK I CAN LEARN TO...
...CALL THIS PLACE HOME. BUT ENOUGH TALK.
LET US ENJOY THIS GAME OF YOURS.
REALLY?
OKAY! BUT YOU HAVE TO START...
AS A LOW-LEVELED WARRIOR!
A "LOW-LEVELED WARRIOR", HUH?
I THINK I CAN DEAL WITH THAT.

NOW THEN! IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BATTLE...
... AN ELF WARRIOR JOINS THE GROUP OF HEROES!
EVERYBODY MOVING IN! NOW!
NOT THE END.

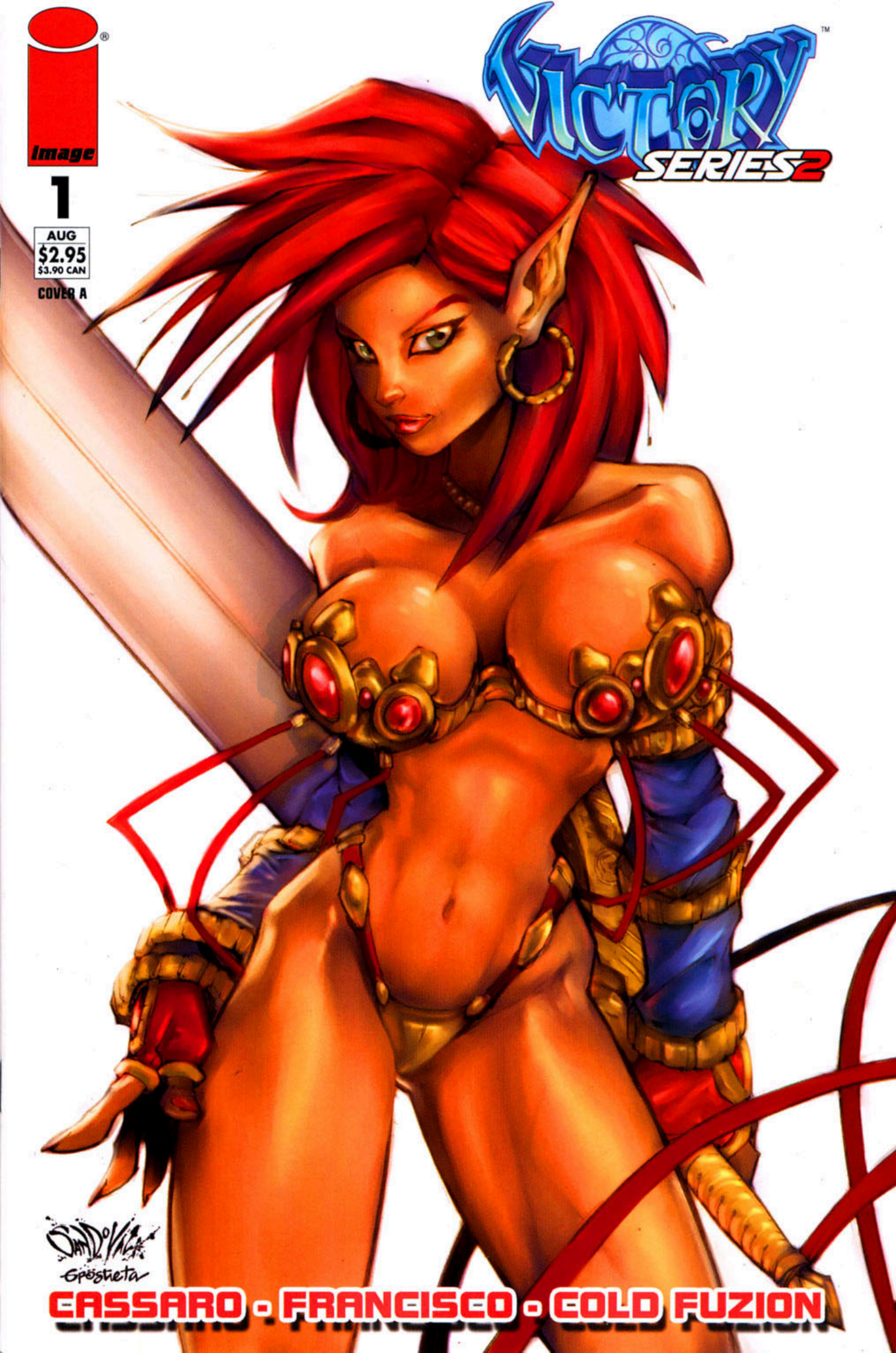


image
1
AUG
$2.95
$3.90 CAN
COVER A
VICTORY
SERIES 2
CASSARO • FRANCISCO • COLD FUZION

image COMICS PRESENTS

VICTORY SERIES 2 #1

COVER A

COVER B

CHASE COVER C

FOR COLD FUZION STUDIOS

MARCELO CASSARO & PETRA LEÃO

PLOTS & SCRIPT:

EDU FRANCISCO

ART & INKS:

JACOBS LADDER

SCRIPTS FINISH:

ANDRÉ VAZZIOS, RICARDO RIAMONDE RÔMULO SOARES & TEAM COLD FUZION

COLORS, GRAPHICS & FX:

COVERS:

GERARDO SANDOVAL (A) ,ROGER CRUZ (B) & EDU FRANCISCO (C)

EDITS BY:

DEREK O'GORMAN

PRODUCED BY:

ALSHA L. STEVENS (HBIC)

COLD FUZION STUDIOS

[THE FUZE HAS BEEN LIT!]

WWW.CFZ.CC or WWW.COLDFUZIONSTUDIOS.COM

IMAGE COMICS, INC.

Erik Larsen - *Publisher*
Todd McFarlane - *President*
Marc Silvestri - *CEO*
Jim Valentino - *Vice-President*
Eric Stephenson - *Executive Director*
Brett Evans - *Production Manager*
Cindie Espinoza - *Controller*
B. Clay Moore - *PR & Marketing Coordinator*
Allen Hui - *Web Developer*
Jon Malin - *Production Assistant*
Tim Hegarty - *Booktrade/International Rights*

www.imagecomics.com

VICTORY, Vol. 2 #1, August 2004. First Printing. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 1071 N. Batavia St. Suite A, Orange, CA 92867.

Image and its logos are ® and © 2004 Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Victory is ™ and © 2004 Editora Talisma. All rights reserved. The characters, events and stories in this publication are entirely fictional. No portion of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder except for artwork used for review purposes.

Printed in Canada

NATIVE OF THE MEDIEVAL WORLD KNOWN AS ARTON, AND DAUGHTER OF THE OMNIPOTENT WARRIOR GOD, PALADIN, VICTORIA DEFEATED THE MONSTER GOD, K'ATHANOA, PREVENTING HIM FROM RAVAGING THE EARTH WITH HIS LEGION OF DARKNESS.
WITH HALF OF AN INFINITE POWER AT HER COMMAND, VICTORIA STILL WONDERS HOW SHE WILL EVER RETURN HOME...
...AND IF HER WORLD OR HER BELOVED FATHER STILL EXIST. VICTORIA NOW TRIES TO MAKE A NEW LIFE ON EARTH WITH HER NEWFOUND FRIENDS AND ADOPTED FAMILY.
...A NEW TALE IN THE NEVER ENDING SAGA BEGINS.
"WHAT DREAMS MAY COME" PART 1
CLAIRE AND THE DROW CREATED BY FRAN ELLES BRIGGS

SO, YOU ARE THE GROUP OF HEROES I'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT? I CAN FEEL YOUR POWER AND DETERMINATION...
...BUT I WONDER, WILL IT BE ENOUGH TO BRING ME, THE ARSENAL MASTER, DOWN?!
BE WARNED... YOUR CHOICES ARE NOT EASY ONES TO MAKE! ONCE MY CHALLENGE IS TAKEN...
...THERE WILL BE NO TURNING BACK!
LOOK AT YOU, YOUR PROWESS HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO DIMINISH!
THOUGH YOU MANAGED TO CAST A MUSICAL SPELL ON OUR DWARF, YOUR VICTORY IS NOT ASSURED.
IF WE MUST, MY COMRADES AND I WILL FIGHT TO THE LAST MAN!
SO BE IT!

THE KNIGHT SPEAKS TRUE WORDS. BUT KNOW THAT YOU SHALL FALL THIS DAY...
... BY THE MAGIC AT MY COMMAND!
NICELY SAID...
KLINK!
SUCK ON THIS FOR A MINUTE BEFORE YOU GET SO COCKY!
EVEN BETTER EXECUTED!
AH, BRAVE KNIGHT YOU AMAZE ME! YOU TRY TO DISTRACT ME...
... WHILE YOUR PET ELF TRIES HIS BACKSTAB ATTACK.
GRK!
THE LORD OF WAR IS NOT AMUSED BY SUCH CHILDISH TRICKERY! HOW SAD. IS NO ONE AMONG YOU WORTHY OF FACING ME?
WHAT SAY YOU...
...THE MERCENARY? COME AND AMUSE ME.
WELL, YA' KNOW, MASTER... MY CONTRACT DIDN'T SAY NOTHING 'BOUT SUICIDE MISSIONS. I READ THE FINE PRINT, YOU KNOW?!
DAMN YOU, DROW! I KNEW THAT COWARD WOULD BETRAY US!!

YEP! I DON'T DO LOST CAUSES, BUTT FACE. HOWEVER, I KNOW THIS WILD REDHEAD THAT...
...IS A SUCKER FOR THEM! WHAT A SHAME, LOOKS LIKE YOU ARE A FOOL FOR CHILDISH TRICKERY.
VICTORIA FROM ARTON...
...SHALL BE YOUR OPPONENT THIS DAY.
THAT'S MY GIRL, KNOCK THIS LOSER ON HIS RUMP.
WHAT THE...?

THE DAUGHTER OF THE PALADIN? NOW THINGS ARE GETTING INTERESTING!
CAN A DEMI-GODDESS RESIST THE POWER OF THE GOD OF WAR?
SKOM
CORRECTION, YOU ONLY SERVE A GOD... LORD OF WAR!
WHILE I, VICTORIA, AM A SLAYER OF GODS. DO THE MATH!
THAT HAMMER OF YOURS, IS THAT A WEAPON OR A CHILD'S TOY?
COME FIND OUT, WENCH.

TOYS SUCH AS YOURS SHOULD STAY ON THE PLAYGROUND WHERE THEY BELONG.
KLINK
SHOOOOM
WHILE A WEAPON SUCH AS BRENDA, MY FRIEND AND FAITHFULSWORD, IS CONSIDERED TO BE JUDGMENT.
JUDGMENT THAT I NOW USE TO BRING AN END TO YOUR EVIL. GOODBYE AND GODSPEED, ARSENAL.
BY ALL THE GODS IN THE PANTHEON! SHE'LL DEFEAT ARSENAL MASTER!
PIECE OF CAKE, SUGAR.

NOW, THE ONLY THING LEFT TO DO IS...
...SUCK ALL BLOOD POINTS OUTTA HIM!
BLOOD POINTS?! DAMN! WE CAN'T KEEP PLAYING LIKE THIS, CLAIRE!
THIS AIN'T NO VAMPIRE GAME! THERE AIN'T NO BLOOD POINTS!
THERE AIN'T NO "WE" DUDE, I AM AN INDIVIDUAL. BESIDES, WHAT'S THE FUN IN THE GAME IF YA CAN'T, LIKE, SUCK A FEW BLOOD POINTS OUTTA SOMEBODY?!
ER, FLAVIUS... THIS "VAMPIRE" CHICK OF DARIO'S CAN'T PLAY!
SHUT UP!!!
YOU HAVEN'T PUT DOWN THOSE CARDS YET?! WHAT ABOUT YOU, TAKASHI?! IF YOU KEEP ON JUST LISTENING TO THAT CD, YOUR DWARF WILL DIE!
OK, OK! NOW GIMME BACK THE 'PHONES!
WHAT CRAP, "GAMEMASTER"! YOU BARK AT US AND LET SUPER VICKY HERE DO WHATEVER SHE WANTS!
ME?! WHAT DID I DO?
GEEZ... I DIVIDED HER CHARACTER'S POWER A HUNDRED TIMES!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT THAT SHE'S OVERPOWERED IN REAL LIFE!
IT'S LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, ROGER...

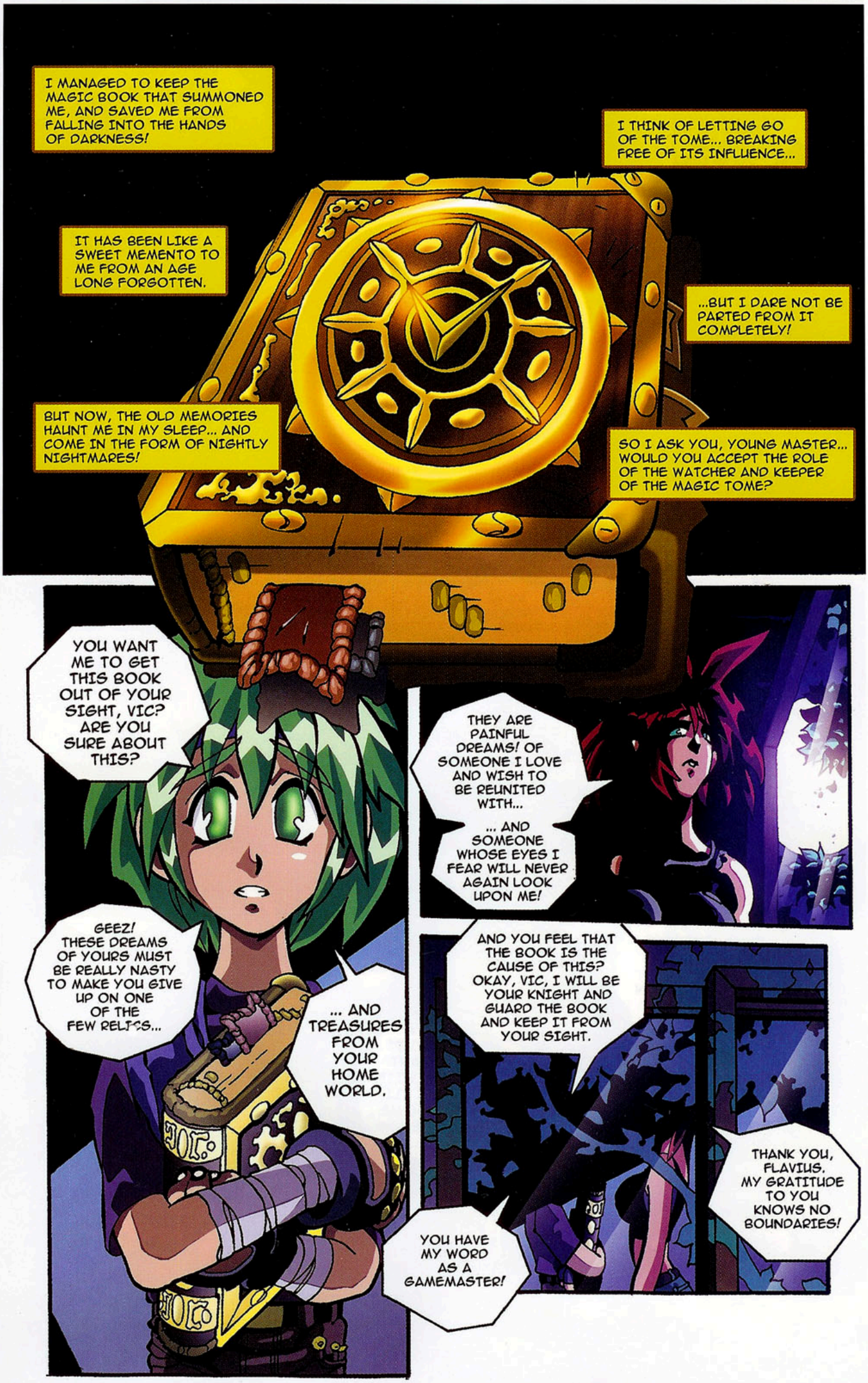
GAME OVER
YA! WON'T HAVE THESE SORT OF PROBLEMS PLAYING IN NEO CYBER GEAR FOR THE BOX!
...TO PLAY MEDIEVAL FANTASY YOU'VE GOTTA HAVE A REAL LAME BRAIN.
OR METAL FUZION FOR THE CUBE.
UM...WHO INVITED THESE GUYS ANYWAY?
OH HUSH! YOU'RE JUST MAD BECAUSE YOU'RE OUT OF THE GAME.
HA! I KNOW THE REASON THEY'RE HERE.
DUDE, ROLL THE DICE AND SHUT YOUR MOUTH!
YOU HAVE A BULLY AFTER YOU, AND YOU'RE AFRAID TO HAVE THE SMACK LAID ON YA.
HEY! ARE YOU SAYING WE'RE CHICKENS?!
IF THE SHOE FITS.
WHOA GUYS, CHILL, BEFORE THIS GETS OUT OF CONTROL.
OH YEAH?! LET'S SEE HOW THAT SAME SHOE FITS RIGHT UP YOUR...
AS MUCH AS I LOVE COMBAT...

... I DO NOT CONSIDER THIS A PROPER OCCASION FOR THIS LITTLE SKIRMISH!
DON'T YOU AGREE, LITTLE WARRIOR?
ER... SURE, SISTA... CAN YOU LET ME GO NOW?
WELL, LOOKS LIKE THE GAME IS OVER! TIME TO GO BACK TO MY LITTLE CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE.
GUYS, UNTIL THE NEXT SUNSET!
LATER, RPG GEEKS!
I'M OUTTA HERE TOO. THESE LOSERS MAKE ME SICK.
GEEZ, WHY DOES CLAIRE ALWAYS BRING THOSE FREAKS ALONG?
IF THEY WEREN'T DARIO'S FRIENDS, I'D...
WE'RE GONNA JET TOO, FLAVIUS!
IT'S GETTING LATE, AND WE'RE NOT IN THE MOOD TO PLAY ANYMORE!
ALREADY? WELL, OKAY. I GUESS WE'LL MEET TOMORROW AT THE COMICS STORE...
...TO RESUME THE CAMPAIGN. MOVE OUT TROOPS!
YOUNG MASTER, DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE? THERE IS SOMETHING...
... YOU AND I ALONE NEED TO TALK ABOUT.

TELL ME, BIBS... DID YOU REALLY BREAK OUT BECAUSE THE MOOD WAS RUINED OR...?
NOT! JUST TIRED OF FLAVIUS CHEATING FOR VICKY!
THERE'S GOTTA BE A LIMIT, YOU KNOW?
IT REALLLY PISSES ME OFF THAT HE DOES NOT SEE HOW UNHAPPY WE ALL ARE WITH HIS BEHAVIOR!
IF HE THINKS I'M PLAYING TOMORROW, HE'S GOT ANOTHER THINK COMING!
WOW, ALL THIS TIME HAS PASSED AND YOU ARE STILL SOOO JEALOUS.
WHO? ME?! ARE YOU NUTS, TAKASHI?
YEAH, RIGHT...
YO, GUYS, LOOK! CLAIRE AND HER FRIENDS. LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GETTING ...
...THE CRAP KICKED OUT OF THEM!
SO WHAT? ASK ME IF I CARE.
THE TRIO OF DARKNESS SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES.

THAT WILL TEACH YOU...
WHAK
YOU LOSERS ARE ALL TALK...
...NOW GIMME THE MONEY.
...TO GIVE ME THE MONEY WHEN I ASK FOR IT, YOU LITTLE FREAKS.
HEY, GUY, LOOK! PUNCHING PEOPLE IS WAY UNCOOL.
KER-
FORGET IT, CLAIRE! NO USE ARGUING WITH A GUY WHOSE MOTHER AND FATHER WERE BROTHER AND SISTER.
OUCH!
YEAH, WHY TALK WHEN YOU CAN FIGHT?
"DON'T DO IT, EDDIE! REMEMBER THE MASQUERADE!"
MASQUERADE, MY FOOT! I WON'T LET ANYONE HIT MY BRO' LIKE THAT!
I AM WAITING...

YOUR HEART SEEMS TO CARRY A HEAVY BURDEN, YOUNG MASTER!
IT'S TOUGH TO KEEP COOL WITH ALL THAT'S GOING ON WITH THE GANG, VIC!
BIBS GETS GRUMPIER BY THE DAY... TAKASHI DOESN'T CARE ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN ANYMORE! AND LALO ONLY CARES FOR HIS CARD GAMES NOW.
DARIO SEEMS THE SAME... BUT HE KEEPS SHOWING UP WITH THOSE WACKO NEW FRIENDS OF HIS!
AND IF IT BRINGS YOU ANY COMFORT, YOUNG MASTER... KNOW THAT I...
VICTORIA OF ARTON, SHALL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE!
YOU HUMANS ALWAYS SEEM TO BE UNHAPPY, YOUNG MASTER. HUMANS ARE ALWAYS CHANGING! THIS IS SOMETHING THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED...
... BUT THE BONDS BETWEEN FRIENDS CAN BE CARED FOR AND KEPT FOREVER!
ER... COOL... UM, I MEAN... THANKS... BUT... YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO TALK, SO WHAT'S UP?
AH, INDEED...
VUP!


I MANAGED TO KEEP THE MAGIC BOOK THAT SUMMONED ME, AND SAVED ME FROM FALLING INTO THE HANDS OF DARKNESS!
I THINK OF LETTING GO OF THE TOME... BREAKING FREE OF ITS INFLUENCE...
IT HAS BEEN LIKE A SWEET MEMENTO TO ME FROM AN AGE LONG FORGOTTEN.
...BUT I DARE NOT BE PARTED FROM IT COMPLETELY!
BUT NOW, THE OLD MEMORIES HAUNT ME IN MY SLEEP... AND COME IN THE FORM OF NIGHTLY NIGHTMARES!
SO I ASK YOU, YOUNG MASTER... WOULD YOU ACCEPT THE ROLE OF THE WATCHER AND KEEPER OF THE MAGIC TOME?
YOU WANT ME TO GET THIS BOOK OUT OF YOUR SIGHT, VIC? ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
THEY ARE PAINFUL DREAMS! OF SOMEONE I LOVE AND WISH TO BE REUNITED WITH...
... AND SOMEONE WHOSE EYES I FEAR WILL NEVER AGAIN LOOK UPON ME!
GEEZ! THESE DREAMS OF YOURS MUST BE REALLY NASTY TO MAKE YOU GIVE UP ON ONE OF THE FEW RELICS...
... AND TREASURES FROM YOUR HOME WORLD.
AND YOU FEEL THAT THE BOOK IS THE CAUSE OF THIS? OKAY, VIC, I WILL BE YOUR KNIGHT AND GUARD THE BOOK AND KEEP IT FROM YOUR SIGHT.
THANK YOU, FLAVIUS, MY GRATITUDE TO YOU KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES!
YOU HAVE MY WORD AS A GAMEMASTER!

NEXT DAY.
LET ME SEE IF I FOLLOW YOU. YOU'RE SAYING IF YOU WANTED SOMETHING TO GET LOST, ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS LEND IT TO ME?
THAT'S RIGHT! JUST LIKE IT HAPPENED WITH MY TOME OF CELESTIAL MAGIC, MY GALRASIA BESTIARY,
MY COMPLETE CHAIN MAIL HANDBOOK... AND YOU STILL GOT MY AD&T COREBOOK, RIGHT?
YEAH, RIGHT, OKAY, I GOT THE MESSAGE!
LOOK, I THINK WE WON'T PLAY TODAY! BIBS IS HOME STUDYING! TAKASHI IS REHEARSING WITH HIS BAND...
YES! I GOT A K ATHAMON!
HEY? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
BLASTED BAD LUCK! THE ONES YOU DO WISH WOULD SHOW UP, DON'T...
AND THE ONES YOU DON'T WANNA SEE ARE HERE!
LALO IS HERE, BUT HE'S SITTING THERE PLAYING HIS CRITTERMON CARD GAME!
I'M OUTTA HERE, DARIO! I DON'T WANT TO BE RUDE WITH YOUR PALS. I'LL GO AFTER SOME ABSENT FRIENDS OF MINE...
CLAIRE? HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS HERE?
WEEEEE, DARIO! I WAS, LIKE, PASSING THROUGH...

GEEZ, DUDE! AUSPEX, FOR SURE! YOU DON'T THINK I'D MISTAKE YOUR AURA FOR ANY OTHER, DO YA?
WELL, UMM,
I WANTED TO, LIKE, COMPENSATE FOR THAT BAD MOOD YESTERDAY!
SO, I SEARCHED THROUGH SOME OLD JUNK BACK HOME AND FOUND THIS! YOU CAN KEEP IT!
"OLD JUNK?" BUT THIS IS THE WARRIORS & MONSTERS, THIRD EDITION!
IT'S BRAND NEW! HOW COULD IT...?
WOW, LOOK... IF YOU DON'T WANT IT, I CAN GIVE IT TO FLAVIUS, RIGHT?
NO, NO, CLAIRE! THANKS A LOT! WISH I COULD GIVE SOMETHING BACK...
NO WAY WOULD I WANNA OWE YOU ANYTHING...
LET ME THINK! WHAT COULD I GIVE...
AH, YOU KNOW WHAT? KEEP THIS OTHER BOOK! I'M SUPPOSED TO LOSE IT, ANYWAY!
WHOA, MAN! COOL! AN OLD AND TARNISHED TOME! THIS IS JUST WHAT I ALWAYS WANTED!
WELL, I'M GOING NOW! IT'S ALMOST DARK AND I'M SUPPOSED TO SLEEP AT EDDIE AND ROGER'S TONIGHT!
THEY NEED ME, Y'KNOW! MUST BE TOUGH TO GET WHACKED...
... AND HAVE NO ONE TO HEAR YOU VENT AND STUFF.
SOON...

IS THIS...
...A DREAM?
WHY DO I FEEL LIKE THEY ARE REAL?
WHY DO I FEEL THIS GROWING SENSE OF IMPENDING DANGER?

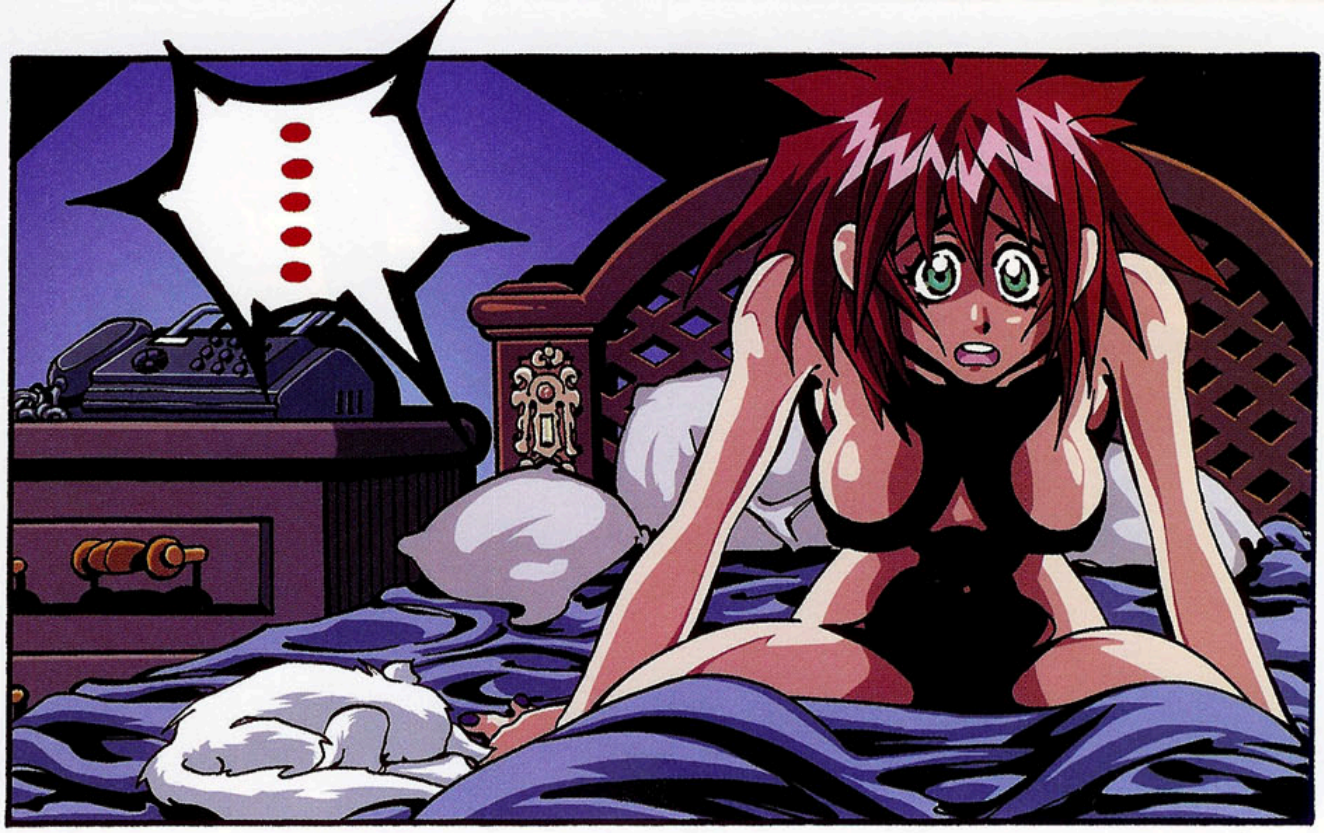
IT MATTERS NOT! REALITY OR ILLUSION, I SHALL NOT FALL... NOT EVEN IN MY DREAMS!

SHAWING
WHAT ARE THESE CREATURES? NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I DEFEAT THEM...
...THEY KEEP COMING BACK IN GREATER NUMBERS! WHY...?
SHOOM!
SUCH A THING HAPPENS BECAUSE THEY ARE YOUR FEARS MADE FLESH, VICTORIA!
THIS PRESENCE... THIS POWER... WHO?
AND FEARS CANNOT BE VANQUISHED WITH SUCH EASE!
F-FATHER?

FATHER... I... SO MANY TIMES I BEGGED THE GODS FOR THE SIGHT OF YOU!
THESE ARE YOUR DREAMS, VICTORIA! ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS WISH A LITTLE HARDER!
WHY DIDN'T YOU COME TO ME BEFORE, FATHER? WHY DIDN'T YOU ANSWER MY CALLS?
NO! DON'T SPEAK LIKE THAT! THERE'S NO GREATER WISH IN MY HEART!
YOUR ABSENCE NEVER CEASED TO HURT ME, EVEN FOR A SINGLE MOMENT!

YOU ARE A DISGRACE TO ME, VICTORIA.
HOW COULD YOU LET EMOTION OVERTAKE YOU?
THIS ALMOST RESULTED IN YOUR DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF KAROLEI!
OUR KIND HAS NOT THE RIGHT TO HAVE FEELINGS!
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THE HEART CAN BE TREACHEROUS...

SPRINT
...TREACHEROUS... LIKE YOUR MIND!
NÃOOO!
HA HA HA
HA HA HA



A NEW NIGHTMARE! EVEN MORE AGONIZING THAN THE OTHERS!
I CAN STILL SENSE THE COLD TOUCH OF THE STEEL THROUGH MY CHEST!
MOTHER ONCE SAID... THAT DREAMING IS LINKED TO REALITY!

THAT DREAMS CAN BE FORESIGHTS! WARNINGS FROM WITHIN...
...AND NOT THE MERE SPAWN...
...OF BITTER OLD MEMORIES!

IS MY WARRIOR INSTINCT TRYING TO WARN ME?!
SO BE IT! VICTORIA AWAITS - READY TO FACE ANY MENACE!

YO!! STOP MOANING AND LET ME FIX YA, ROGER!
HEY, LIKE... IT'LL BE TOUGH TO SLEEP ALL HURT LIKE THAT, HUH?
WE'LL SLEEP WAY BETTER THAN THAT GUY BACK IN THE HOSPITAL!
WHEW, EDDIE... WON'T ALL THIS STREET BRAWLING RUB YOUR PARENTS THE WRONG WAY?
WHAT PARENTS, CLAIRE? YA SEEN ANY AROUND?
IF MOM WAS STILL HERE, MAYBE SHE'D CARE...
WELL, THERE'S DAD... BUT HE LEAVES SO EARLY AND COMES BACK SO LATE...
IF NOT FOR THE FEW BUCKS HE LEAVES US ON THE KITCHEN TABLE, WE'D NEVER KNOW HE WAS AROUND.
DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WORSE... HAVING NO FRIENDS OR A FAMILY YOU BARELY SEE!
NAH, NEVER MIND! SHE NEVER BOTHERED TO TAKE US WITH HER WHEN SHE LEFT...

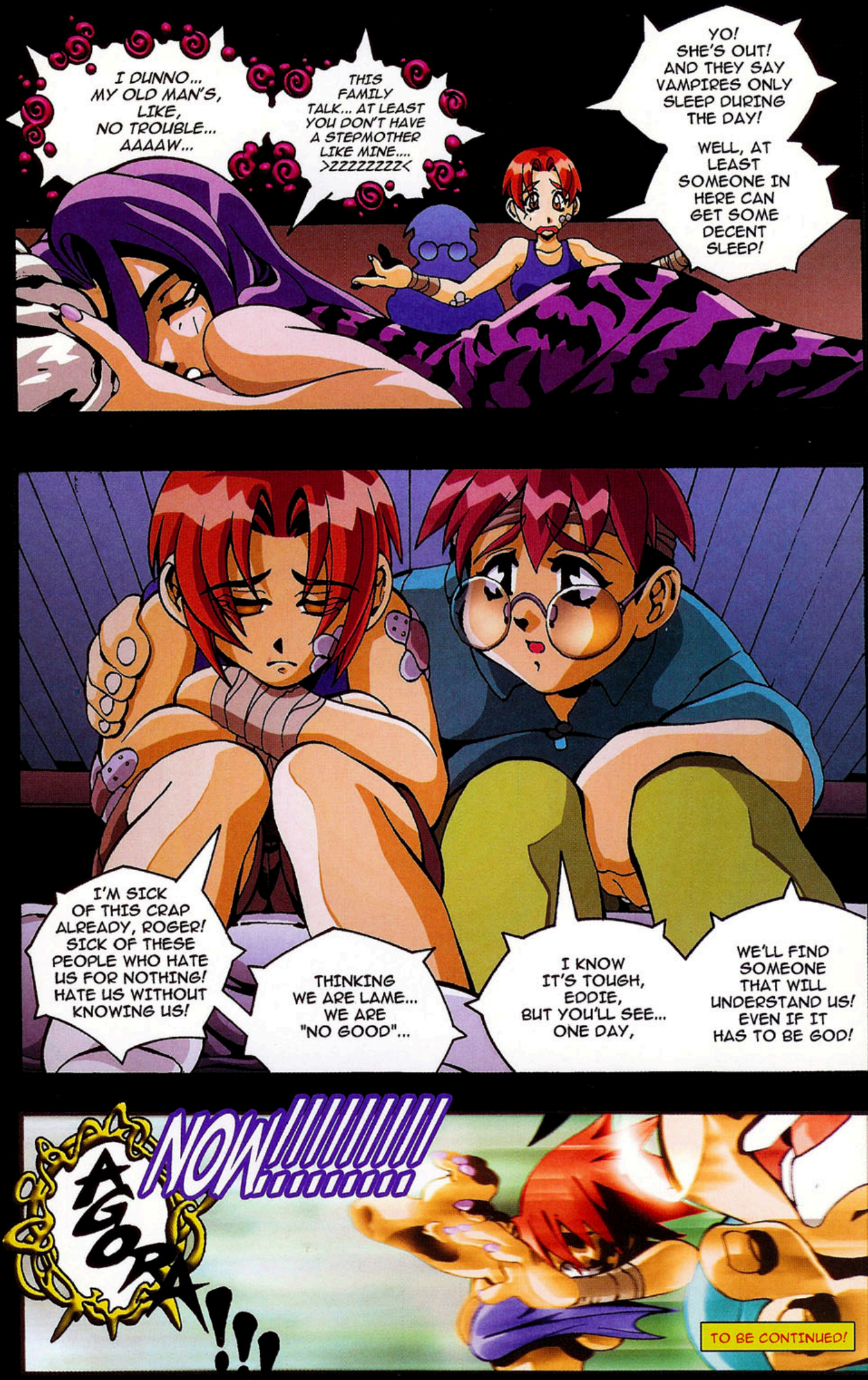

I DUNNO... MY OLD MAN'S, LIKE, NO TROUBLE... AAAAW...
THIS FAMILY TALK... AT LEAST YOU DON'T HAVE A STEPMOTHER LIKE MINE.... >ZZZZZZZZZ<
YO! SHE'S OUT! AND THEY SAY VAMPIRES ONLY SLEEP DURING THE DAY!
WELL, AT LEAST SOMEONE IN HERE CAN GET SOME DECENT SLEEP!
I'M SICK OF THIS CRAP ALREADY, ROGER! SICK OF THESE PEOPLE WHO HATE US FOR NOTHING! HATE US WITHOUT KNOWING US!
THINKING WE ARE LAME... WE ARE "NO GOOD"...
I KNOW IT'S TOUGH, EDDIE, BUT YOU'LL SEE... ONE DAY,
WE'LL FIND SOMEONE THAT WILL UNDERSTAND US! EVEN IF IT HAS TO BE GOD!
AGORA
NOW!!!!!!!!!!
TO BE CONTINUED!

image
VICTORY
SERIES 2
2
SEPT
$2.95
$3.85 CAN
COVER C
CASSARO .
FRANCISCO .
COLD FUZION .

image COMICS PRESENTS

VICTORY SERIES 2 #2

FOR COLD FUZION STUDIOS

MARCELO CASSARO & PETRA LEÃO

PLOTS & SCRIPT:

EDU FRANCISCO

ART & INKS:

JACOBS LADDER

SCRIPTS FINISH:

ANDRÉ VAZZIOS, RICARDO RIAMONDE RÔMULO SOARES & TEAM COLD FUZION

COLORS, GRAPHICS & FX:

COVERS:

EDU FRANCISCO (A) & (B)
Cover (C) Done by upcoming FIEFDOMS & DARK EVOLUTION Artist...
Kenneth (Kr.) Rocafort

EDITS BY:

DEREK O'GORMAN

PRODUCED BY:

ALSHA L. STEVENS (HBIC)

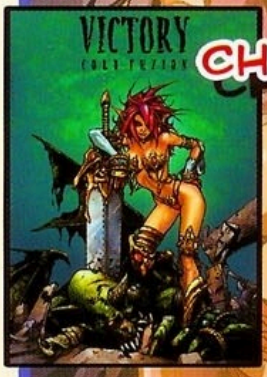
COLD FUZION STUDIOS

[THE FUZE HAS BEEN LIT!]

WWW.CFZ.CC or WWW.COLDFUZIONSTUDIOS.COM

COVER A

COVER B



CHASE COVER C

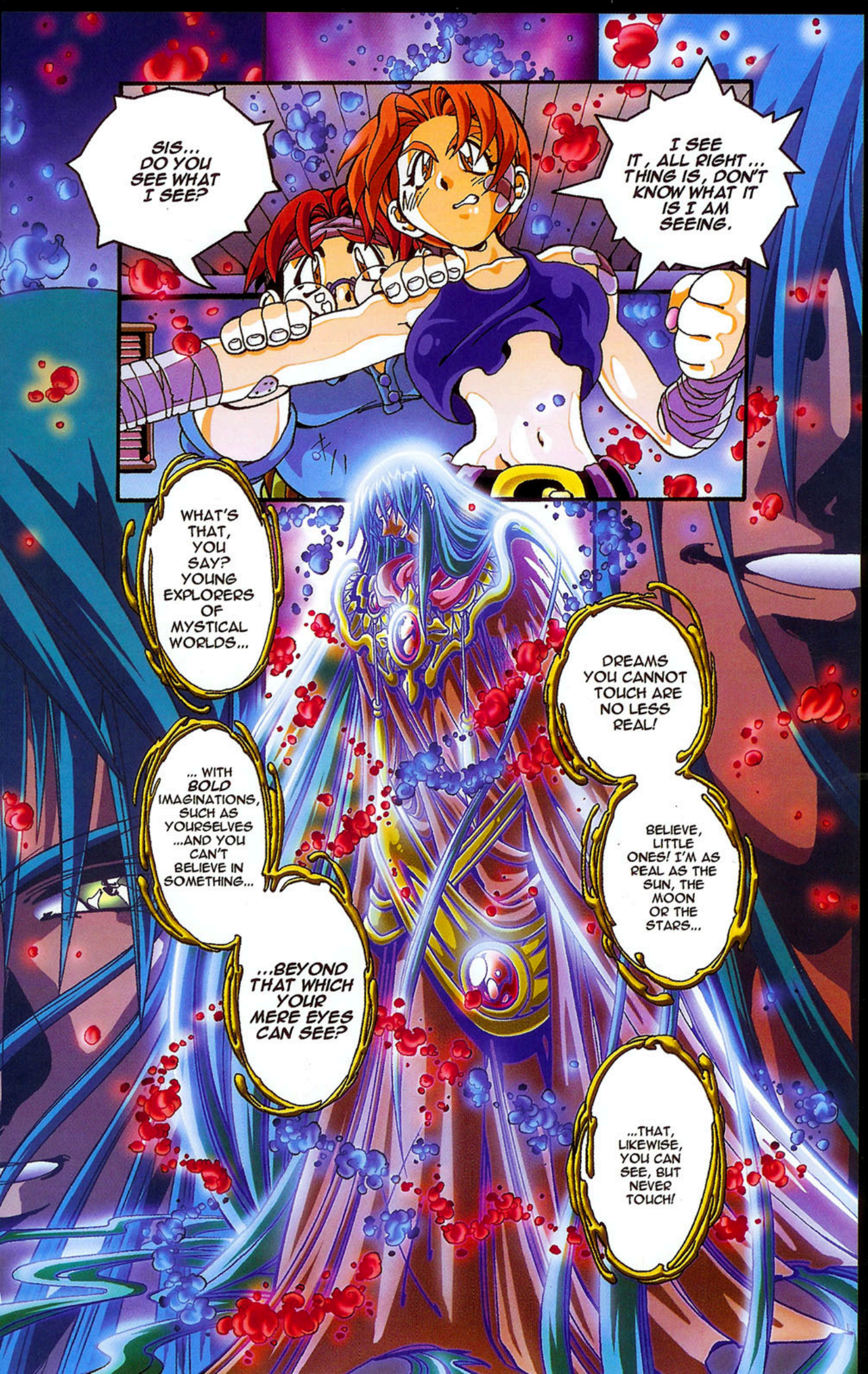
IMAGE COMICS, INC.
Erik Larsen - *Publisher*
Todd McFarlane - *President*
Marc Silvestri - *CEO*
Jim Valentino - *Vice-President*
Eric Stephenson - *Executive Director*
Brett Evans - *Production Manager*
Cindie Espinoza - *Controller*
B. Clay Moore - *PR & Marketing Coordinator*
Allen Hui - *Web Developer*
Jon Malin - *Production Assistant*
Tim Hegarty - *Booktrade/International Rights*

www.imagecomics.com

VICTORY, Vol. 2 #2, September 2004. First Printing. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 1071 N. Batavia St. Suite A, Orange, CA 92867. Image and its logos are ® and © 2004 Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Victory is ™ and © 2004 Editora Talisma. All rights reserved. The characters, events and stories in this publication are entirely fictional. No portion of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder except for artwork used for review purposes.
Printed in Canada

VICTORIA, THE DEMI-GODDESS, CAME TO EARTH SUMMONED BY THE POWERS OF AN ANCIENT MAGIC BOOK.
HER FIGHTING PROWESS IS BEYOND MEASURE, BUT HER HEART STILL TRIES TO LIVE PAST THE LOSS OF HER FATHER, THE PALADIN, AND THE END OF HER HOMEWORLD.
THE MAGIC BOOK ITSELF SEEMS TO HIDE DARK SECRETS UNKNOWN TO THE HALF-ELVEN. HER DREAMS TRY TO WARN HER ABOUT THE RETURN OF AN OLD NEMESIS.
BUT THE REAL THREAT LIES IN THE PATH OF HER NEW FRIENDS, A GROUP OF KIDS FROM EARTH. TWO OF THEM, THE TWINS EDDIE AND ROGER, REJECTED AND DESPISED BY ALL, ARE ABOUT TO BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME ... OR THE KEY TO ENDING THEIR LIVES FOREVER.
"WHAT DREAMS MAY COME" PART 2

YOU WISHED FOR A GOD WHO WOULD LISTEN TO YOUR PRAYERS?
BOOM
NOW, THAT GOD STANDS BEFORE YOU.

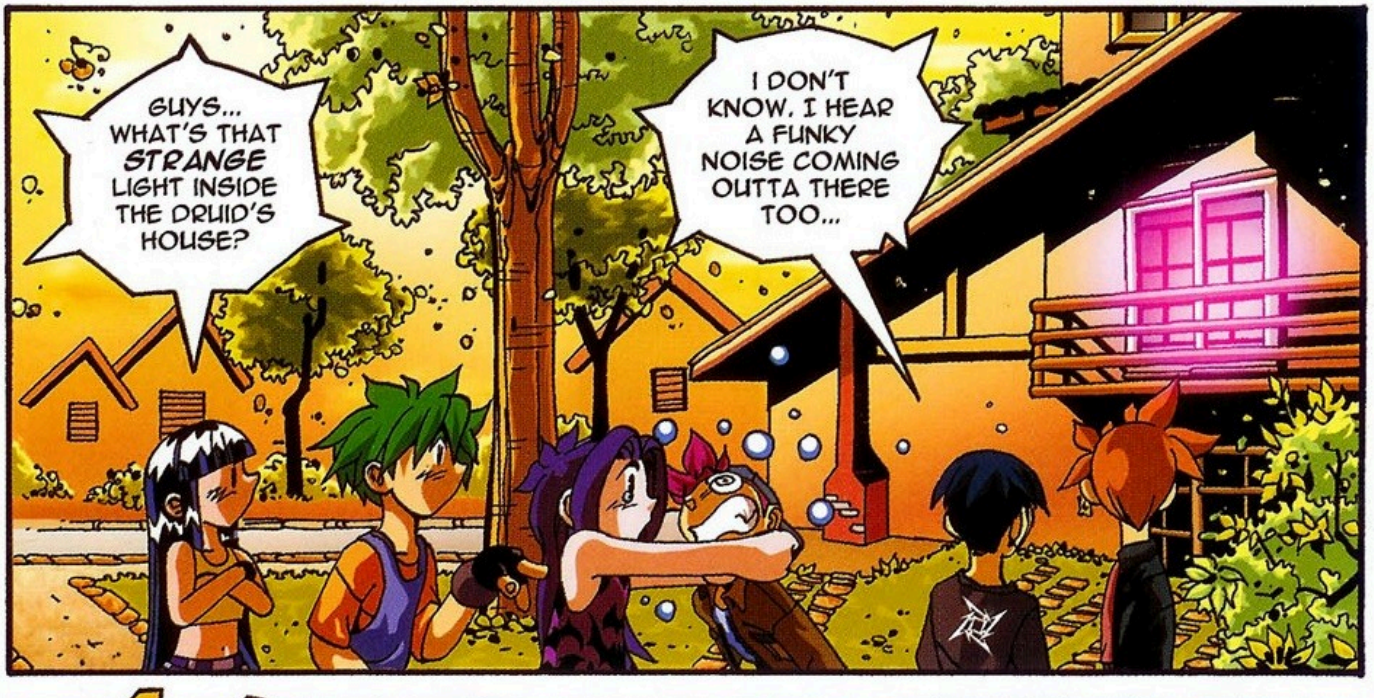

SIS... DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?
I SEE IT, ALL RIGHT... THING IS, DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS I AM SEEING.
WHAT'S THAT, YOU SAY? YOUNG EXPLORERS OF MYSTICAL WORLDS...
... WITH BOLD IMAGINATIONS, SUCH AS YOURSELVES ...AND YOU CAN'T BELIEVE IN SOMETHING...
...BEYOND THAT WHICH YOUR MERE EYES CAN SEE?
DREAMS YOU CANNOT TOUCH ARE NO LESS REAL!
BELIEVE, LITTLE ONES! I'M AS REAL AS THE SUN, THE MOON OR THE STARS...
...THAT, LIKEWISE, YOU CAN SEE, BUT NEVER TOUCH!

YO, OLD GUY!!! DROP THE CORNY POETRY AND TELL US WHO YOU ARE!
ER... PERHAPS IT'S SOME KINDA GHOST?!
NAMES WILL BE REVEALED IN DUE TIME.
BUT DON'T BE SO SIMPLE-MINDED, LITTLE ONE!
IT'S NOT POLITE TO MISTAKE A GOD FOR A MERE REFLECTION OF THE DEAD.
YES! I AM THE ONE TO WHOM EVERYONE TURNS ONE DAY.
EVERY MORTAL CARRIES ME INSIDE THEIR HEART;
ANGST... ENVY... HATRED...
BROKEN HEARTS AND DARK DAYS!
AND EVERY HEART CARRIES MY BLESSING!
YOUR CALL PIERCED THROUGH TIME AND SPACE AND REACHED ME!

GIVE ME A BREAK! THIS STORY AIN'T STICKING WITH ME!
MUST BE... SOME KIND OF MIRACLE!
I CAN'T DO MUCH IN THIS WORLD OF UNBELIEVERS...
BUT THERE IS ANOTHER WORLD, ONE IN WHICH, WITH MY AID...
...YOU COULD ACHIEVE GREAT POWER... RESPECT... A HIGH STANDING...
FOR INSIDE YOU, EDNA, WHOM THEY CALL EDDIE, I CAN SEE GREAT COURAGE AND RESOLUTION!
AND INSIDE OF YOU, ROGER, I SEE VAST INTELLIGENCE AND WILLPOWER!
BUT BEFORE MY GIFT CAN BE GIVEN, YOU MUST ACCEPT MY INVITATION!
WHAT SAY YOU, LITTLE ONES? MAKE UP YOUR MIND...

...FOR TIME FLOWS.
THAT'S SO WRONG, FLAVIUS!
DUDE, DO WE REALLY NEED TO GET TO THE DRUID'S HOUSE SO EARLY?!
YEAH, I'M STARTING TO SIDE WITH BIBS ABOUT YOU SWEATING VICTORIA AND ALL! SHE'S GOT YOU SO WHIPPED!
PISS OFF DUDE, BECAUSE IT AINT EVEN LIKE THAT. BESIDES, I JUST WANT TO GET BACK THE TIME YOU ALL MADE ME LOSE YESTERDAY!
SINCE WORDS ARE USELESS WITH YOU DORKS, I DECIDED TO PROVE TO YOU GUYS THAT I AM "SWEATING" NOBODY.
DING DONG!
THERE'S SOMETHING I ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW, DOES A DEMI-GODDESS HAVE TO GET ANY SLEEP?
YOU ARE SUCH A TOOL DARIO. AND LOOK, HERE COMES THAT FREAK VAMPIRE WANNA BE GIRLFRIEND OF YOURS!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY THIS? SHE'S NOT MY GIRLFRIEND!
GEEZ, MAN... ON SECOND THOUGHT, I THINK WE ALL BELIEVE YOU NOW. THAT RIGHT THERE AIN'T NO GIRLFRIEND!
LIKE!! WHAT WAS THAT BOOK YOU GAVE ME?!
AND IF SHE COMES OUT WALKING AROUND IN HER PAJAMAS, THAT'S HER PROBLEM!

LET HIM GO, CLAIRE, BEFORE HE NEEDS AN ORDER OF PROTECTION FROM YA....
WOW, LIKE, I DON'T GIVE A DAMN, RIGHT? WHAT HAPPENED TO MY FRIENDS?!
HOW WOULD I KNOW? NOW LET ME GO, LADY VADER!!
METALLICA


GUYS... WHAT'S THAT STRANGE LIGHT INSIDE THE DRUID'S HOUSE?
I DON'T KNOW. I HEAR A FUNKY NOISE COMING OUTTA THERE TOO...

AAAHHH!!
SKOOOM
FOOSH

JUST FOR THE RECORD, I AM SOOO NOT FEELING THIS, YOU GUYS!

GIVE IT UP, ABOMINATIONS! AS LONG AS I LIVE, THERE SHALL BE NO PLACE FOR THE LIKES OF YOUR KIND IN THIS WORLD...
CRYCH
... AND VICTORY, LIKE THE UNIVERSE ITSELF, IS EVERLASTING!
DEATH TO YOU ALL, HELLHOUNDS! BUT TELL ME, CREATURES...
KIIAA!
FLAM
... WHY DO YOU CONTINUE TO FIGHT AFTER I HAVE SLAIN COUNTLESS NUMBERS OF YOUR BRETHREN?
WOULDN'T IT BE WISE TO JUST SURRENDER?
KRAK

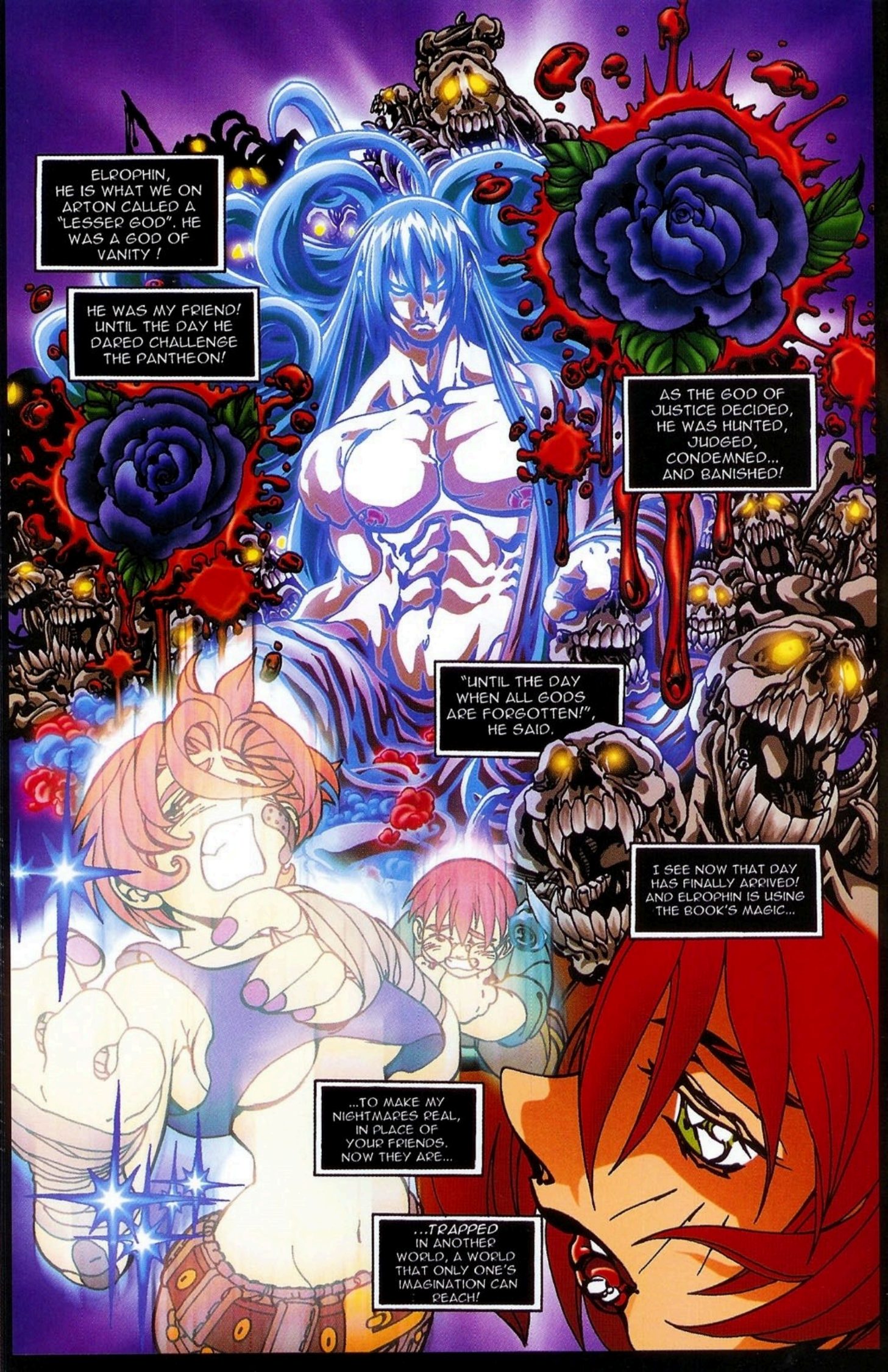
K-AAA!
BOING!
CRCH!
DARIO, IN THE NAME OF BRAM STOKER, WHAT'S GOING ON?!
LOOK, CLAIRE, I AM GUESSING IT'S A LONG STORY AND I DON'T KNOW HALF OF IT!
VICTORIA... WHAT'S HAPPENING?
THIS IS TOO WEIRD! WITH VICKY'S POWERS, SHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DISPATCH THESE LOW-LEVELED MONSTERS ALREADY! BUT NOW THAT I LOOK AT THEM... THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU COULD EVEN TOUCH THEM... THEY SEEM... UNREAL...
ENOUGH! TO THINK SUCH TRASH WOULD RISE UP AGAINST THE DAUGHTER OF THE PALADIN IS A TRAVESTY!
I WILL MAKE SURE THAT DEATH SHALL BEFALL ALL OF YOUR KIND.

SHOOM
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FOUND YOUR WAY INTO THIS WORLD...
...BUT THIS IS NOT YOUR PLACE! NOT YOUR TIME! NOW...
...BE GONE!
LOOKS LIKE IT'S OVER, BUT I HAVE A FEELING THEY WILL RETURN! LIKE THEY DO IN MY DREAMS, THE ABOMINATIONS SHALL RETURN!
BUT WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? I WAS NEARLY DEFEATED.
MY DEAR, DEAR FATHER... I AM IN NEED OF YOUR GUIDANCE AND WISDOM.

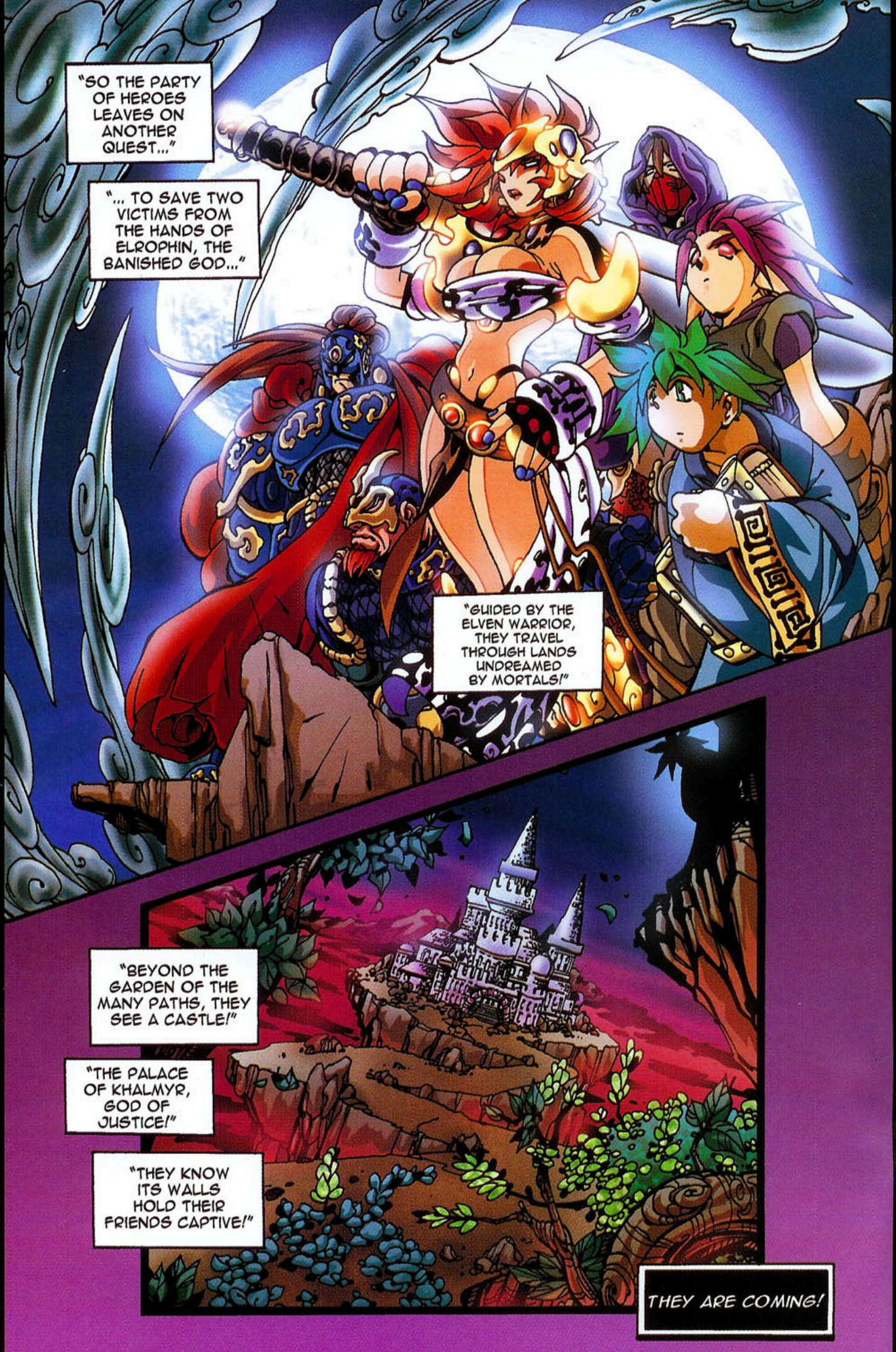
VICTORIA? ARE YOU OK? IT LOOKED AS IF... I MEAN...
CAN'T YOU SPEND A WEEK WITHOUT AN EPIC BATTLE?
GEEZ, YOU'RE GONNA MAKE ME HAVE ALL KINDS OF HEART ATTACKS HERE.
YOU WORRY FOR NO REASON, PILGRIMS! WHILE THE BATTLE DID LAST THE WHOLE NIGHT...
...I COULD NEVER BE DEFEATED BY SUCH FIENDS!
DID YOU SAY "THE WHOLE NIGHT"?!
VICTORIA! YOUR... ARMOR OR WHATEVER YOU CALL IT... LOOKS DIFFERENT!
YES! AND I MUST CONFESS I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THIS CAME TO BE!
I SUPPOSE THAT... JUST LIKE IT HAPPENED WITH THE FIENDS...
...THE ARMOR I USED IN THE NIGHTMARES BECAME REAL AS WELL!
THOSE MONSTERS CAME OUT OF YOUR DREAMS?!
SO THEY WEREN'T... REALLY REAL?
BUT... ASIDE FROM THE LESSER GODS YOU TALKED ABOUT, I THOUGHT THERE WAS NOTHING ELSE LEFT FROM YOUR WORLD!
SO DID I!
ONLY DREAMS TO YOU, PERHAPS, BUT NOT FOR ME!
FIENDS LIKE THE ONES YOU SAW EXISTED IN MY HOMEWORLD!

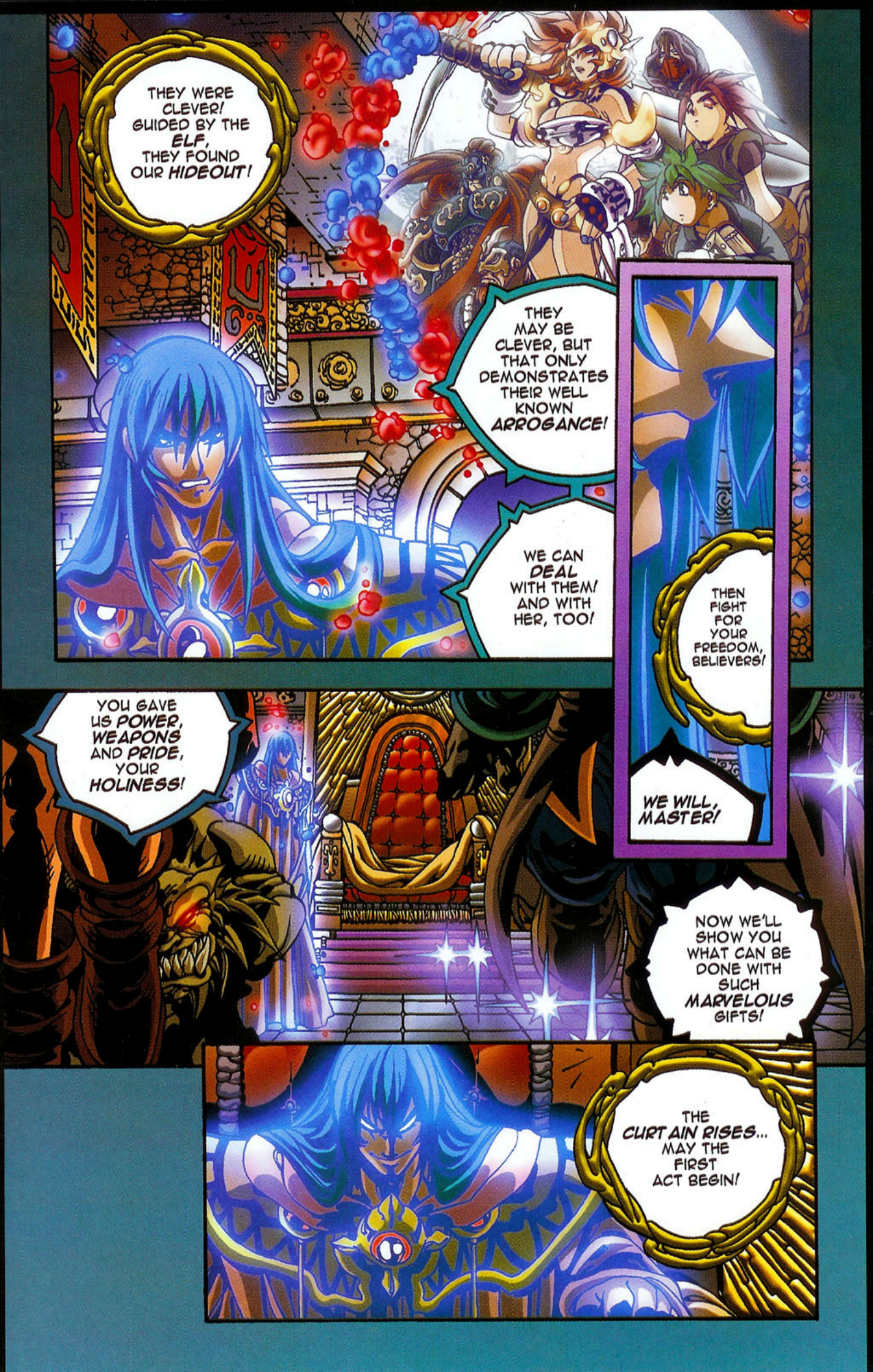
GUYS... FOR REAL NOW... YOU BETTER EXPLAIN ALL THIS TO CLAIRE...
...OR ELSE HER BRAIN WILL JUST... MELT AND FLOW OUT OF HER EARS!
I THAUGHT I TAW A PUTTY CAT... I THAUGHT I TAW A PUTTY CAT...
CLAIRE, HERE'S THE DEAL... THIS MIGHT DISTURB EVEN A "CENTURY OLD VAMPIRE"... LIKE YOURSELF.
BUT, VICTORIA IS NOT HUMAN AND SHE'S NOT FROM HERE. I MEAN, EARTH.
YOU'RE KIDDING?!
THE YOUNG MASTER TELLS THE TRUTH, LITTLE ONE! I AM VICTORIA, HUNTER OF GODS! DAUGHTER OF THE PALADIN OF ARTON!
AND THIS IS BRENDA, MY AVATAR ARTIFACT, AND THE BEST FRIEND ONE COULD HAVE!
TOGETHER WE LEAP THROUGH TIME FIGHTING THE MENACES THAT WOULD THREATEN PEACE!
YES I AM!
WOW, SO, LIKE... YOU'RE LIKE A WARRIOR FIGHTING FOR LOVE AND JUSTICE?
DUDES! THIS IS SO BEYOND MY IMAGINATION...
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE BACK TO YOUR CRAZY SELF, CLAIRE!

UM... RIGHT. ANYWAYS... DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW THOSE THINGS GOT HERE, VICKY?
THAT'S A MYSTERY TO ME AS WELL, YOUNG ONE! MY OWN RETURN WAS PART OF THE PROPHECY...
...BUT I CAN NOT EXPLAIN THE COMING OF THESE CREATURES.
WELL.... IF THEY CAME FROM A WORLD THAT IS SOME KIND OF A POCKET REALITY... I DON'T KNOW...
WEE, MS. GODDESS! COULD THIS BOOK, LIKE, HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH ALL THIS?
DEMI-GODDESS, LITTLE ONE!
ANYWAY, HOW DID YOU GET YOUR HANDS ON THAT BOOK?
WELL UM, LIKE YESTERDAY, I SLEPT AT ROGER AND EDDIE'S! WHEN I WOKE UP, THEY WERE GONE! I ONLY FOUND THIS BOOK... OPENED AT THESE PAGES!
NO WAY! THEY ARE INSIDE THE BOOK?!
THOSE TWO ARE GONE, MONSTERS SHOW UP... THERE'S GOT TO BE A CONNECTION HERE!
IT CAN'T BE! ELROPHIN? THE BANISHED ONE.
EURO WHO?!
ELROPHIN?! DIDN'T YOU SAY A NAME LIKE THAT DURING THE GAME WE HAD A FEW WEEKS AGO?
YES! WHEN I DOVE INTO THE GAME, ONE OF THE CHARACTERS REMINDED ME OF HIM.

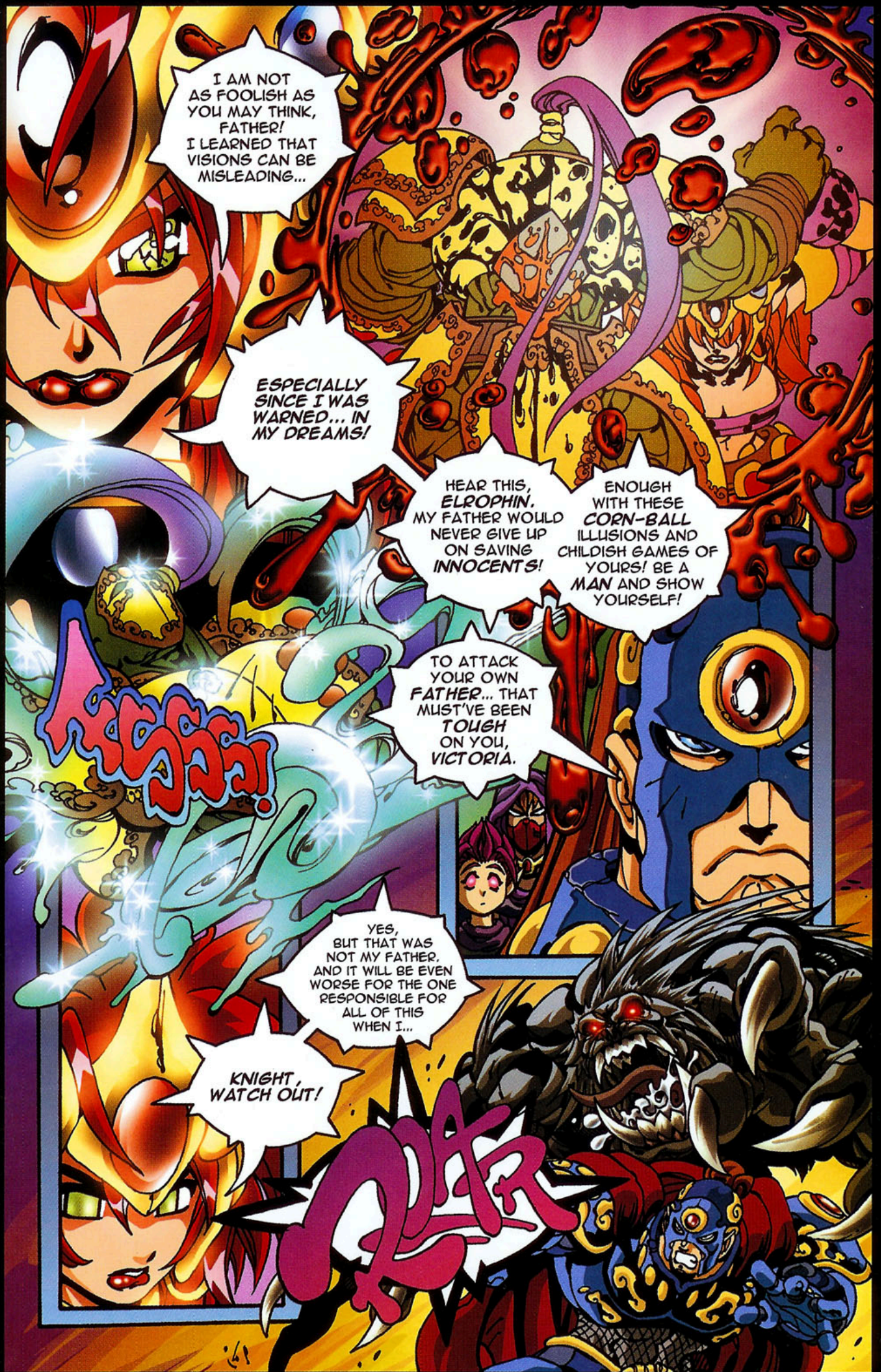

ELROPHIN, HE IS WHAT WE ON ARTON CALLED A "LESSER GOD". HE WAS A GOD OF VANITY !
HE WAS MY FRIEND! UNTIL THE DAY HE DARED CHALLENGE THE PANTHEON!
AS THE GOD OF JUSTICE DECIDED, HE WAS HUNTED, JUDGED, CONDEMNED... AND BANISHED!
"UNTIL THE DAY WHEN ALL GODS ARE FORGOTTEN!", HE SAID.
I SEE NOW THAT DAY HAS FINALLY ARRIVED! AND ELROPHIN IS USING THE BOOK'S MAGIC...
...TO MAKE MY NIGHTMARES REAL, IN PLACE OF YOUR FRIENDS. NOW THEY ARE...
...TRAPPED IN ANOTHER WORLD, A WORLD THAT ONLY ONE'S IMAGINATION CAN REACH!

"ONLY IMAGINATION CAN REACH"? YOU ALWAYS TALK LIKE THAT WHEN WE PLAY RPGS! SO ALL WE NEED TO DO TO GET THERE IS PLAY?
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, YOUNG MASTER?
WELL, WITH THE AID OF THE MAGIC BOOK AND MY "GAMEMASTERING POWERS", WE CAN ALL GET THERE!
I'LL RUN ANOTHER ADVENTURE, LIKE WE DID BEFORE, SO WE CAN GET TO THIS "OTHER WORLD"!
THEN WE CAN SAVE THOSE TWO AND KICK EUROPHIN'S BUTT!
FLAVIUS! DUDE, GET A GRIP! THOSE TWO WERE NOT EVEN OUR FRIENDS!
WEE, FLAVIUS... DON'T QUITE KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, BUT... LIKE, IF WE'RE SAVING EDDIE AND ROGER, COUNT ME IN!
YEAH, TAKASHI! IF WE HAD EVEN TRIED TO BE THEIR FRIENDS, PERHAPS NONE OF THIS WOULD'VE HAPPENED! ARE YOU PLAYING OR WHAT?
WELL... OK... BUT YOU COULD AT LEAST BUMP UP MY DWARF'S LEVEL A BIT.


"SO THE PARTY OF HEROES LEAVES ON ANOTHER QUEST..."
"... TO SAVE TWO VICTIMS FROM THE HANDS OF ELROPHIN, THE BANISHED GOD..."
"GUIDED BY THE ELVEN WARRIOR, THEY TRAVEL THROUGH LANDS UNDREAMED BY MORTALS!"
"BEYOND THE GARDEN OF THE MANY PATHS, THEY SEE A CASTLE!"
"THE PALACE OF KHALMYR, GOD OF JUSTICE!"
"THEY KNOW ITS WALLS HOLD THEIR FRIENDS CAPTIVE!"
THEY ARE COMING!


THEY WERE CLEVER! GUIDED BY THE ELF, THEY FOUND OUR HIDEOUT!
THEY MAY BE CLEVER, BUT THAT ONLY DEMONSTRATES THEIR WELL KNOWN ARROGANCE!
WE CAN DEAL WITH THEM! AND WITH HER, TOO!
THEN FIGHT FOR YOUR FREEDOM, BELIEVERS!
WE WILL, MASTER!
YOU GAVE US POWER, WEAPONS AND PRIDE, YOUR HOLINESS!
NOW WE'LL SHOW YOU WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH SUCH MARVELOUS GIFTS!
THE CURTAIN RISES... MAY THE FIRST ACT BEGIN!

UM, LIKE... LOOK HERE, LADY... YOU'RE LOOKING A LITTLE TOO WORRIED FOR A DEMI-GODDESS.
I HAVE MY REASONS, CLAIRE. I MEAN, DROW THE DARK ELF! EACH MINUTE WE SPEND IN THIS PLACE MAKES US LESS REAL!
BESIDES THE TASK AT HAND, WE ALL FACE THE RISK OF BECOMING UNREAL FANTASY BEINGS!
SKRINCH!
TIME HAS RUN OUT FOR THE LITTLE ONES, MY DAUGHTER.
YOU EXPECT YOUR INTERVENTION TO CHANGE THE FATE OF THE CHILDREN?
NONE HAS POWER OVER THE DICE OF NIMB!
HOLY CRAP! THIS GUY MUST BE...
YES! HE IS THE PALADIN, MY FATHER!
THOSE CHILDREN ARE A PART OF THIS WORLD ALREADY!
GO BACK! ENDANGER NO MORE LIVES!
HOW FOOLISH OF YOU, MY DAUGHTER!


I AM NOT AS FOOLISH AS YOU MAY THINK, FATHER! I LEARNED THAT VISIONS CAN BE MISLEADING...
ESPECIALLY SINCE I WAS WARNED... IN MY DREAMS!
HEAR THIS, ELROPHIN. MY FATHER WOULD NEVER GIVE UP ON SAVING INNOCENTS!
ENOUGH WITH THESE CORN-BALL ILLUSIONS AND CHILDISH GAMES OF YOURS! BE A MAN AND SHOW YOURSELF!
TO ATTACK YOUR OWN FATHER... THAT MUST'VE BEEN TOUGH ON YOU, VICTORIA.
YES, BUT THAT WAS NOT MY FATHER. AND IT WILL BE EVEN WORSE FOR THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THIS WHEN I...
KNIGHT, WATCH OUT!

YOU COULD NOT JUST TAKE THE HINT AND LEAVE, COULD YOU VICTORIA ?
I TRIED TO BE NICE, USING AN ILLUSION SO THEY WOULD GO BACK IN PEACE!
NOW WE'LL HAVE TO BE A BIT MORE PERSUASIVE!
SO, THE ILLUSIONS WERE YOUR HANDIWORK. WHO ARE YOU? HOW DARE YOU MOCK MY FATHER'S HOLY IMAGE?!
TO BE CONTINUED!
ARGH!

CASSARO • FRANCISCO • COLD FUZION
image
3
$2.95
$3.65 CAN
COVER B
VICTORY
SERIES 2

image
3
$2.95
$3.65 CAN
COVER A
VICTORY
SERIES 2
CASSARO · FRANCISCO · COLD FUZION

image COMICS PRESENTS

VICTORY SERIES 2 #3

FOR COLD FUZION STUDIOS

MARCELO CASSARO & PETRA LEÃO

PLOTS & SCRIPT:

EDU FRANCISCO

ART & INKS:

JACOBS LADDER

SCRIPTS FINISH:

ANDRÉ VAZZIOS, RICARDO RIAMONDE RÔMULO SOARES & TEAM COLD FUZION

COLORS, GRAPHICS & FX:

COVERS:

EDU FRANCISCO (A) & (B) & Cover (C) Done by upcoming BREATHE & EL & THE DIVINE TRINITY Artist... Attila (aA.) Adorjany

EDITS BY:

DEREK O'GORMAN

PRODUCED BY:

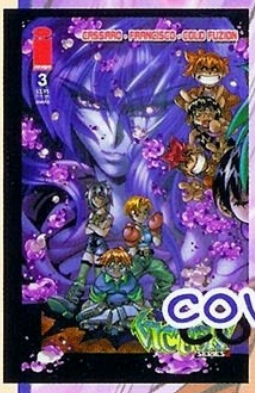
ALSHA L. STEVENS (HBIC)

COLD FUZION STUDIOS

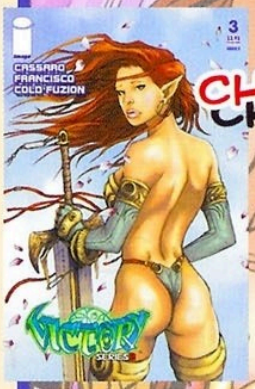
[THE FUZE HAS BEEN LIT!]

WWW.CFZ.CC or WWW.COLDFUZIONSTUDIOS.COM

COVER A



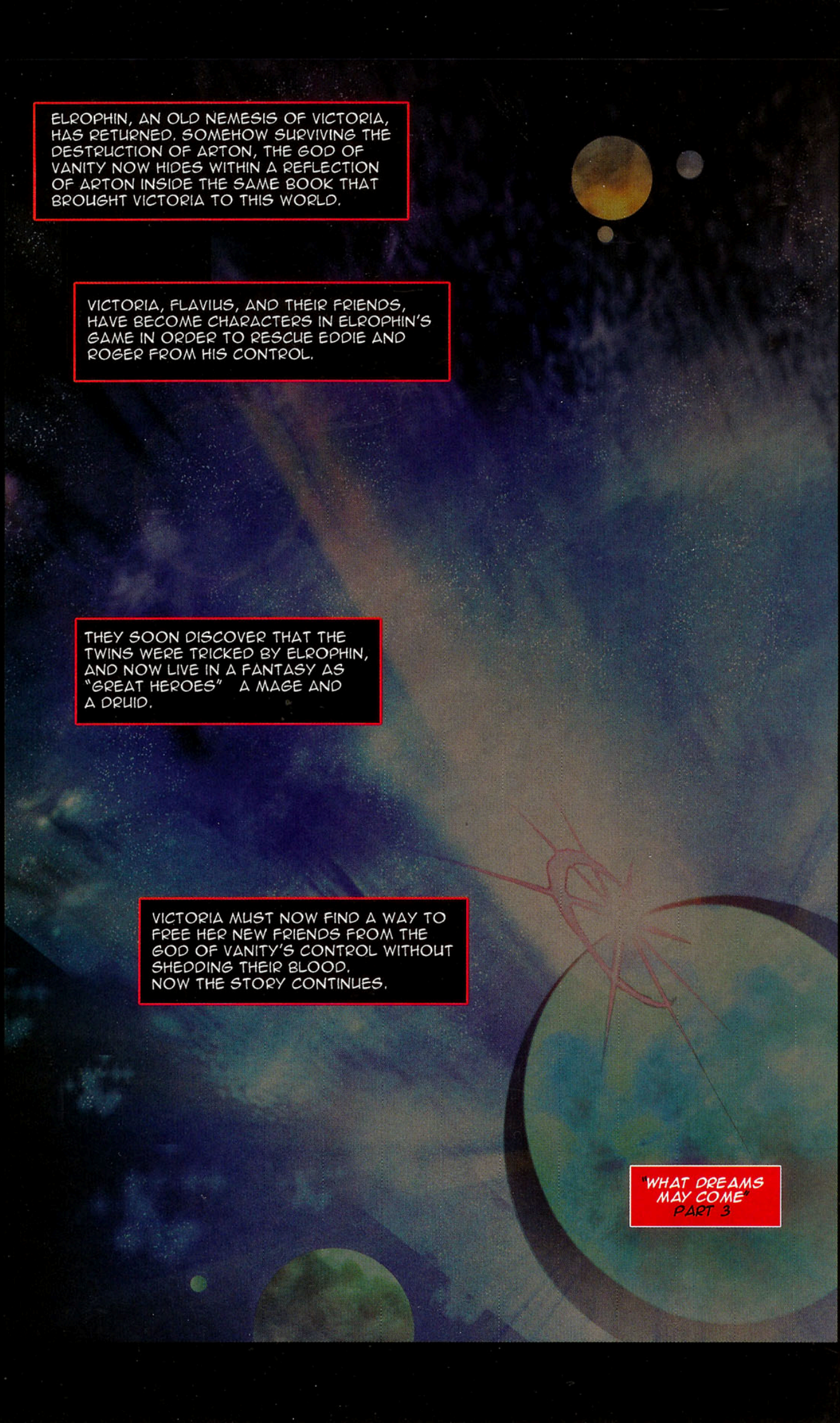
COVER B



CHASE COVER C

IMAGE COMICS, INC.
Erik Larsen - *Publisher*
Todd McFarlane - *President*
Marc Silvestri - *CEO*
Jim Valentino - *Vice-President*
Eric Stephenson - *Executive Director*
Missie Miranda - *Controller*
Brett Evans - *Production Manager*
B. Clay Moore - *PR & Marketing Coordinator*
Allen Hui - *Production Artist*
Joe Keatinge - *Inventory Controller*
Mia MacHatton - *Administrative Assistant*
www.imagecomics.com

VICTORY, Vol. 2 #3. January, 2005. First Printing. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 1942 University Ave. Suite 305, Berkeley, CA 94704. Image and its logos are ® and © 2005 Image Comics, Inc. All Rights Reserved. VICTORY is ™ and © 2005 Editora Talisma. All Rights Reserved. The characters, events and stories in this publication are entirely fictional. No portion of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder except for artwork used for review purposes.
PRINTED IN CANADA

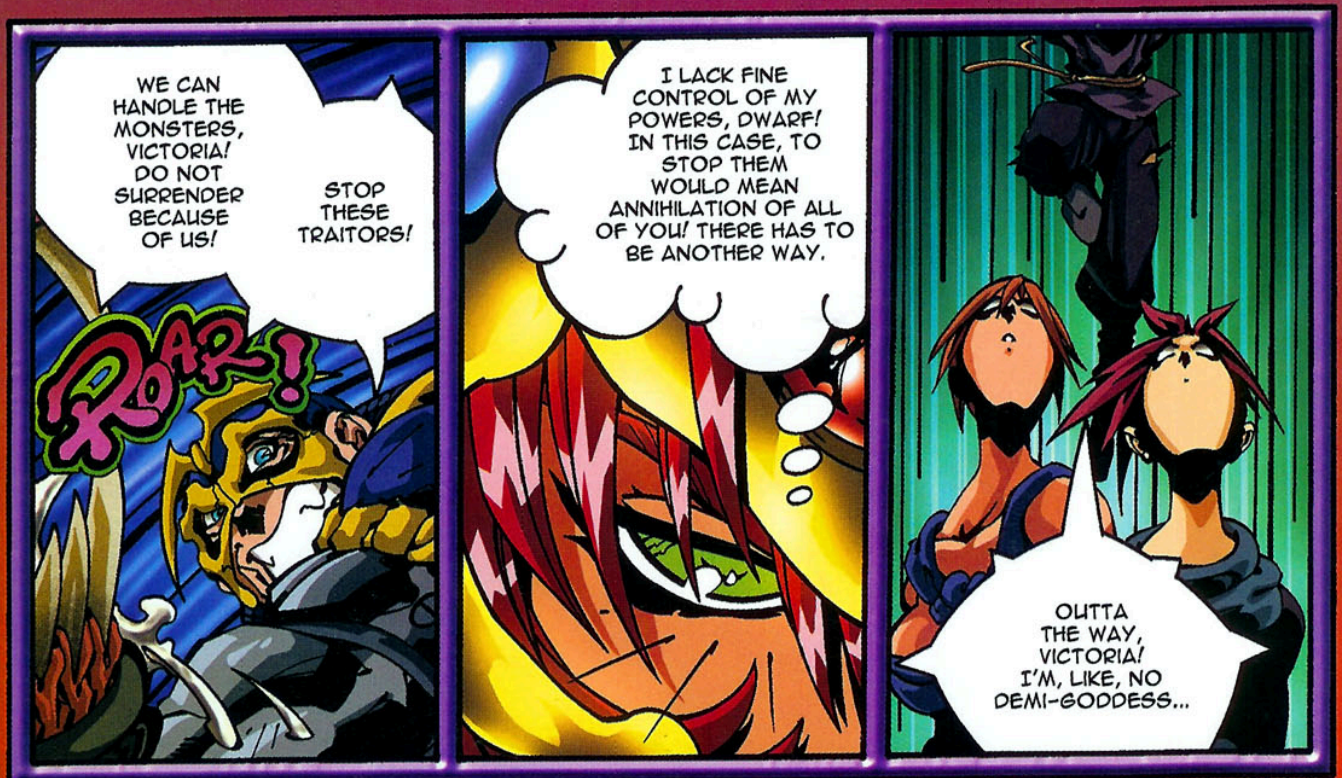

ELROPHIN, AN OLD NEMESIS OF VICTORIA, HAS RETURNED. SOMEHOW SURVIVING THE DESTRUCTION OF ARTON, THE GOD OF VANITY NOW HIDES WITHIN A REFLECTION OF ARTON INSIDE THE SAME BOOK THAT BROUGHT VICTORIA TO THIS WORLD.
VICTORIA, FLAVIUS, AND THEIR FRIENDS, HAVE BECOME CHARACTERS IN ELROPHIN'S GAME IN ORDER TO RESCUE EDDIE AND ROGER FROM HIS CONTROL.
THEY SOON DISCOVER THAT THE TWINS WERE TRICKED BY ELROPHIN, AND NOW LIVE IN A FANTASY AS "GREAT HEROES" A MAGE AND A DRUID.
VICTORIA MUST NOW FIND A WAY TO FREE HER NEW FRIENDS FROM THE GOD OF VANITY'S CONTROL WITHOUT SHEDDING THEIR BLOOD.
NOW THE STORY CONTINUES.
"WHAT DREAMS MAY COME" PART 3

WELL, MS. "MIGHTY HEROINE", CAN'T YOU RECOGNIZE THE "FREAKY NERDS"...
...WHEN THEY CAN USE MAGIC AND HAVE WEREWARG SERVANTS?
SHUNK!
FLAK!
EDDIE? ROGER? IS THAT YOU?
OF COURSE IT'S US, STUPID! NOT SO ALL-KNOWING AFTER ALL, HUH?
DON'T GIVE ME THAT, "ELF"!
YUP!
LOOK HERE, YOU "MAGE" AND "DRUID"...
KNOCK IT OFF ALREADY. IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU THAT WE'RE HERE!
YOU, THAT NEVER CARED ABOUT US, SPEAK OF "SAVING"!
CAN'T YOU SEE WE'VE ALREADY BEEN SAVED?

DON'T BE FOOLISH, LITTLE ONES! YOUR POWERS, JUST LIKE THIS WORLD, ARE NOTHING MORE THAN ILLUSIONS!
WE ARE INSIDE A BOOK! INSIDE OF WHAT'S LEFT OF THE MEMORY OF MY WORLD! IF YOU STAY HERE ANY LONGER, YOU TOO WILL BECOME MEMORIES! FOREVER!
DO YOU THINK WE CARE, HALF-ELVEN? WHAT DOES IT MATTER, IF NO ONE IS GONNA NOTICE WE'RE GONE?!
FSSSS!
DON'T SAY THAT! YOU GUYS WILL BECOME CHARACTERS IN A BOOK...
...WHILE THE MONSTERS FROM THE BOOK TAKE YOUR PLACE IN THE REAL WORLD!
STOP TRYING TO FOOL US! MASTER ELROPHIN WARNED US AGAINST THIS!
AGAINST YOU AND THAT TREACHEROUS HALF-ELF!

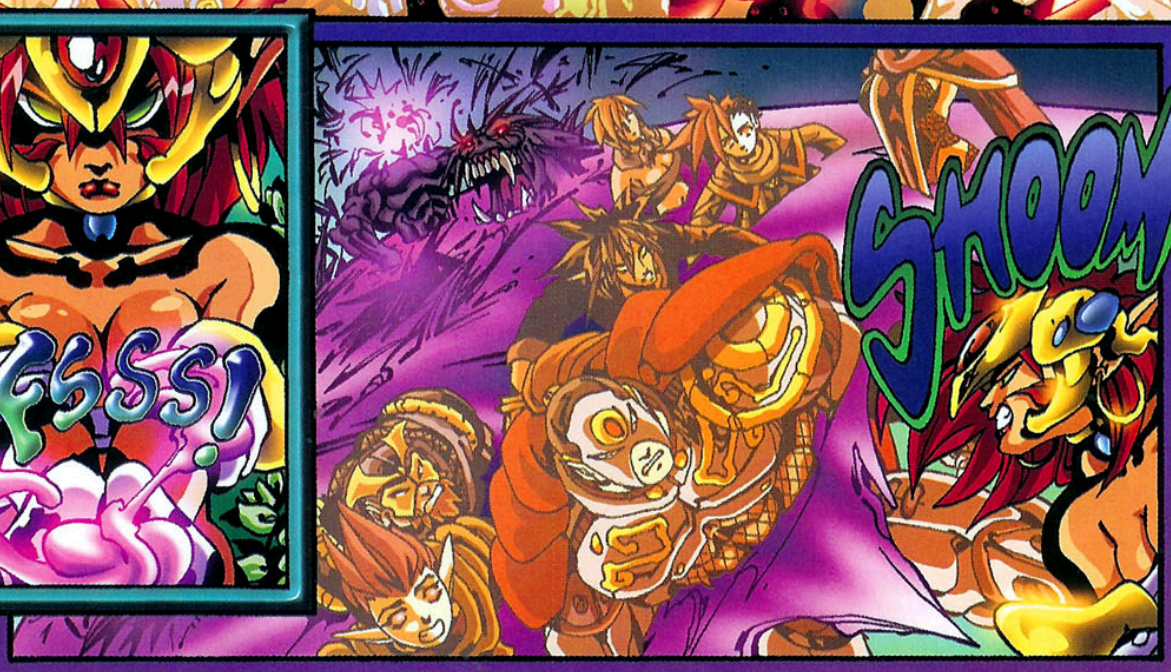
YOU MAY HAVE YOUR TALENT FOR HUNTING AND KILLING GODS, VICTORIA...
...BUT I AM BETTING YOU WON'T UNLEASH YOUR POWER WITH YOUR FRIENDS AROUND, WILL YOU?
GIVE UP NOW AND LEAVE! OR KILL US ALL!
AND SO WE MOVE TO THE SECOND PHASE!

NOW WHAT, ELVEN WENCH? WILL YOU LEAVE THIS PLACE, OR WILL YOU WATCH THE DEATH OF YOUR FRIENDS?
I WARN YOU THE WEREWARGS ANSWER ONLY TO MY SISTER!
THE LIVES OF YOUR FRIENDS DEPEND ON YOUR DECISION! WHAT WILL IT BE?


WE CAN HANDLE THE MONSTERS, VICTORIA! DO NOT SURRENDER BECAUSE OF US!
STOP THESE TRAITORS!
ROAR!
I LACK FINE CONTROL OF MY POWERS, DWARF! IN THIS CASE, TO STOP THEM WOULD MEAN ANNIHILATION OF ALL OF YOU! THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY.
OUTTA THE WAY, VICTORIA! I'M, LIKE, NO DEMI-GODDESS...

THAP!
...BUT AT LEAST I CAN HANDLE THESE TWO WITHOUT BLOWING UP HALF THE PLANET!
I'M SICK OF THEIR CRAP, Y'KNOW? LIKE, I KNEW THEY WERE A COUPLE OF LOSERS, BUT THEY WERE MY LOSERS.
A DARK ELF? COULD IT BE...
CLAIRE? IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT?
NOW! THE DRUID HAS LOST CONTROL OVER THE MONSTERS! WIZARD! CAST THE PHANTASMAL FORM SPELL!!
TO THE REALM OF AIR I BIND OUR MATERIAL HOST! MAY HE WHO ATTACKS US HIT ONLY A GHOST!
IT'S DONE! WHILE THE SPELL LASTS, WE ARE MADE OF NOTHING BUT WIND!
SHE CAN'T SUSTAIN THE SPELL FOR MUCH LONGER!
NOW, VICTORIA!

KSSS!


SMOOM

THANKS! THOUGHT I'D BECOME PART OF THAT MONSTER'S TURDS.
IF NOT FOR THE WIZARD AND THE YOUNG MASTER'S PLAN, YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN MONSTER CHOW.
NOT ALL MAGIC IS USED FOR CAUSING DESTRUCTION, VICKY!
NOW IT'S TIME TO KICK SOME DRUID AND MAGE BOOTY!

NO! NOBODY TOUCH'EM! THEY'RE, LIKE, MY PROBLEM, YA HEAR?!

HUMBLE AS ALWAYS, EH, CLAIRE? YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A SHOWOFF. NOT EVEN WORTH MY TIME.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO AWAY, WHILE YOU'RE STILL BREATHING.

GO AWAY? YOU'RE SO SELFISH! YOU PUT OUR FRIENDSHIP ASIDE, KEEP BITCHING ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS, AND, LIKE....
...WON'T LET ANYONE HELP YOU! BUT WE ARE HERE ANYWAY!
BECAUSE WE CARE! AND IF I AM GOING, THE TWO OF YOU ARE GOING WITH ME.

HMPH... DON'T ACT LIKE YOU KNOW WHAT WE'VE BEEN THROUGH. DESPISED BY ALL... TREATED LIKE FREAKS...
AW, COME ON! DO YOU THINK IT'S ANY DIFFERENT FOR ME? I THOUGHT WE COULD FACE THIS TOGETHER...
...BUT YOU'D RATHER RUN AND HIDE!
ENOUGH! WE'RE DONE TALKING!
WHATCHA GONNA DO, EDDIE?

DAMN YOU, CLAIRE! DON'T MAKE ME...
GEEZ, CLAIRE... YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHAT? KILL ME? YOU KNOW YOU WON'T DO THAT.
WAIT A MINUTE! WHERE'S THE ROLEPLAY?!
TRUE! THEY SHOULD PLAY IN CHARACTER!
I DON'T THINK THIS IS A PROBLEM, DEAR!
NOW WHAT? WE BASH THE BADDIE AND GET SOME EXPERIENCE POINTS?
NO, ELF! WITH YOUR FRIENDS NOW SAFE, THE BATTLE AGAINST ELROPHIN BELONGS TO ME!
GET GOING, GANG! I'LL STICK WITH VICTORIA!
UMM, LIKE, ARE WE IN CHARACTER AGAIN?
WE SHALL WAIT FOR YOUR RETURN!
IT'S OK IF I STICK AROUND, RIGHT? I'M THE GAMEMASTER AFTER ALL!
YES, MASTER! YOUR COMPANY IS ALWAYS WELCOMED.
TO BE CONCLUDED!

image
4
$2.95
$3.65 CAN
COVER A
VICTORY
SERIES 2
VAZIOSS
CASSARO
FRANCISCO
COLD FUZION

image COMICS PRESENTS

VICTORY SERIES 2 #4

FOR COLD FUZION STUDIOS

MARCELO CASSARO & PETRA LEÃO

PLOTS & SCRIPT:

EDU FRANCISCO

ART & INKS:

JACOBS LADDER

SCRIPTS FINISH:

ANDRÉ VAZZIOS, RICARDO RIAMONDE RÔMULO SOARES & TEAM COLD FUZION

COLORS, GRAPHICS & FX:

COVERS:

EDU FRANCISCO (A) & (B)
COVER (C) BY ROGER CRUZ

EDITS BY:

DEREK O'GORMAN

PRODUCED BY:

ALSHA L. STEVENS (HBIC)

COLD FUZION STUDIOS

[THE FUZE HAS BEEN LIT!]

WWW.CFZ.CC or WWW.COLDFUZIONSTUDIOS.COM

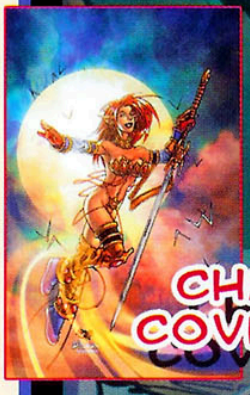
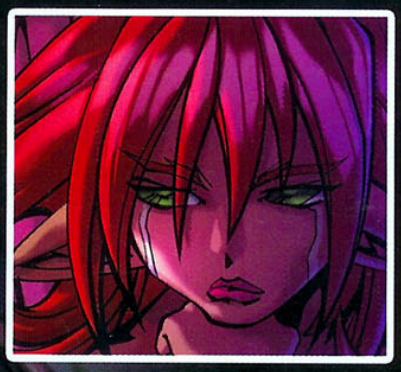


IMAGE COMICS, INC.
Erik Larsen - *Publisher*
Todd McFarlane - *President*
Marc Silvestri - *CEO*
Jim Valentino - *Vice-President*
Eric Stephenson - *Executive Director*
Missie Miranda - *Controller*
Brett Evans - *Production Manager*
B. Clay Moore - *PR & Marketing Coordinator*
Allen Hui - *Production Artist*
Joe Keatinge - *Inventory Controller*
Mia MacHatton - *Administrative Assistant*
www.imagecomics.com

VICTORY, Vol. 2 #3. January, 2005. First Printing. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 1942 University Ave. Suite 305, Berkeley, CA 94704. Image and its logos are ® and © 2005 Image Comics, Inc. All Rights Reserved. VICTORY is ™ and © 2005 Editora Talisma. All Rights Reserved. The characters, events and stories in this publication are entirely fictional. No portion of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder except for artwork used for review purposes.
PRINTED IN CANADA

ELROPHIN, AN OLD NEMESIS OF VICTORIA, HAS RETURNED. SOMEHOW SURVIVING THE DESTRUCTION OF ARTON, THE GOD OF VANITY NOW HIDES WITHIN A REFLECTION OF ARTON INSIDE THE SAME BOOK THAT BROUGHT VICTORIA TO THIS WORLD.

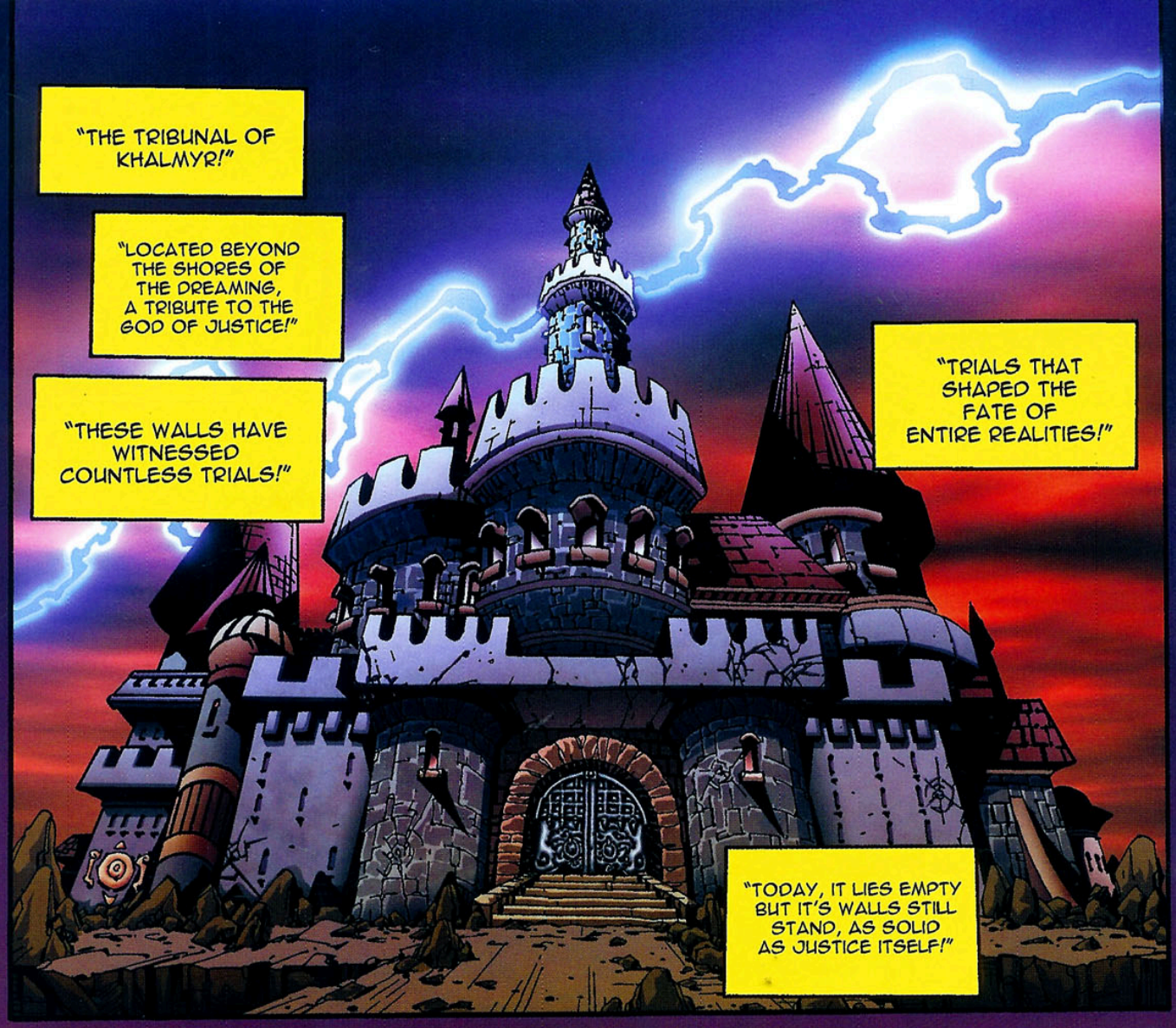


VICTORIA, FLAVIUS, AND THEIR FRIENDS, HAVE BECOME CHARACTERS IN ELROPHIN'S GAME IN ORDER TO RESCUE EDDIE AND ROGER FROM HIS CONTROL.

THEY SOON DISCOVER THAT THE TWINS WERE TRICKED BY ELROPHIN, AND NOW LIVE IN A FANTASY AS "GREAT HEROES" A MAGE AND A DRUID.

VICTORIA MUST NOW FIND A WAY TO FREE HER NEW FRIENDS FROM THE GOD OF VANITY'S CONTROL WITHOUT SHEDDING THEIR BLOOD.
NOW THE STORY CONTINUES.

"WHAT DREAMS MAY COME" PART 4 AND FINAL!

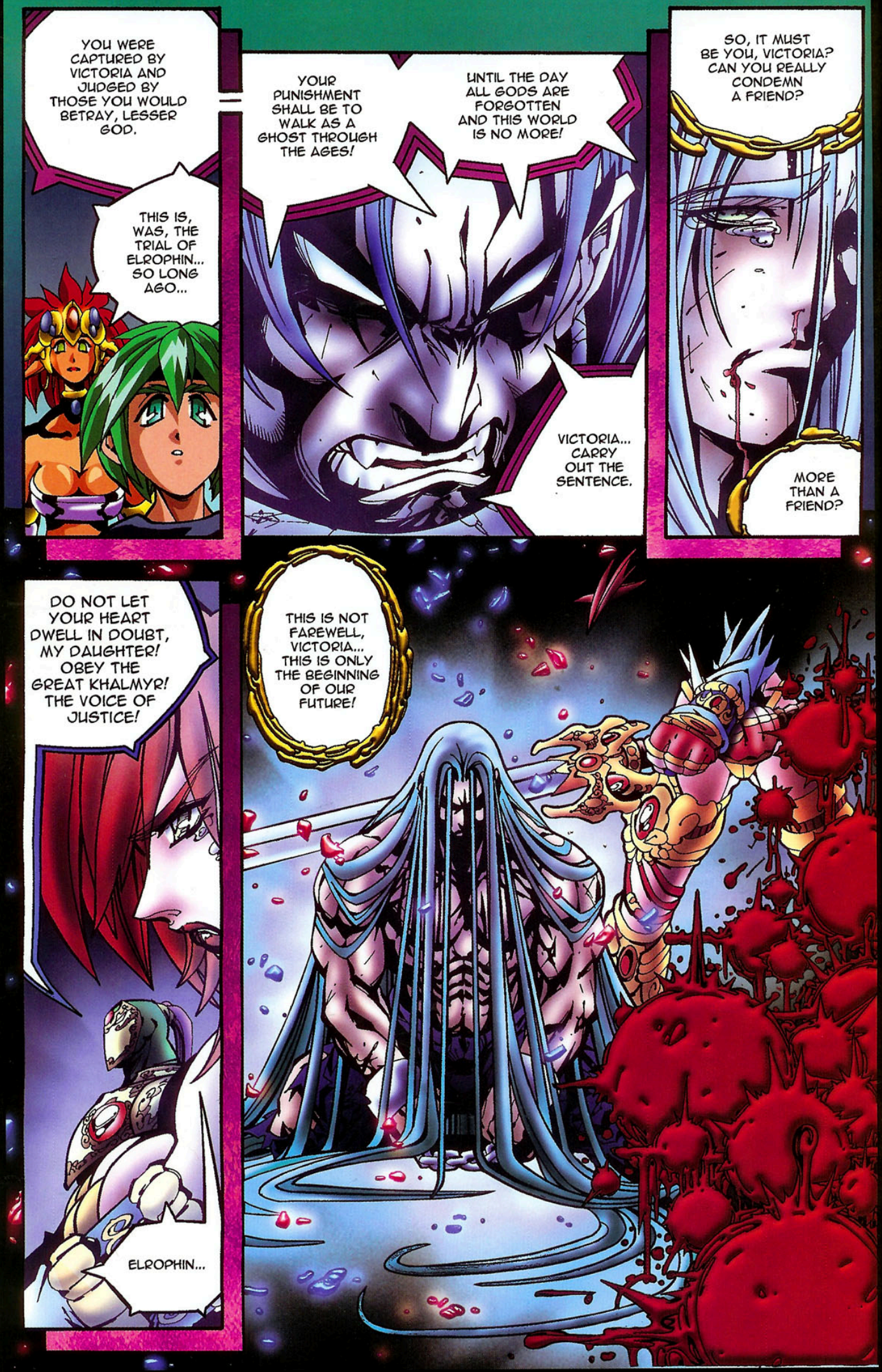

"THE TRIBUNAL OF KHALMYR!"
"LOCATED BEYOND THE SHORES OF THE DREAMING, A TRIBUTE TO THE GOD OF JUSTICE!"
"THESE WALLS HAVE WITNESSED COUNTLESS TRIALS!"
"TRIALS THAT SHAPED THE FATE OF ENTIRE REALITIES!"
"TODAY, IT LIES EMPTY BUT IT'S WALLS STILL STAND, AS SOLID AS JUSTICE ITSELF!"

YOUR GAME IS OVER, ELROPHIN! SAY FAREWELL TO YOUR DREAMS OF CONQUEST.
A NEW LEVEL OF ENDLESS NIGHTMARE NOW AWAITS YOU.

WATCH OUT, VICTORIA! HE'LL TRY TO TRICK YOU, INSTEAD OF ATTACKING DIRECTLY! THAT'S WHAT I WOULD DO IF I WAS THAT DORK!

ELROPHIN HAS PLAYED WITH MY HEART FOR TOO LONG, YOUNG MASTER! THERE'S NOTHING HE COULD DO TO... SURPRISE ME!

..AND SO WE HAVE HERE ELROPHIN, THE LESSER GOD, ACCUSED OF HIGH TREASON.
HE TRIED TO USURP THE POSITION OF VALKARYA, THE SLEEPING GODDESS.
IS THAT CORRECT, ELROPHIN?
YES, GREAT KHALMYR!


YOU WERE CAPTURED BY VICTORIA AND JUDGED BY THOSE YOU WOULD BETRAY, LESSER GOD.
THIS IS, WAS, THE TRIAL OF ELROPHIN... SO LONG AGO...
YOUR PUNISHMENT SHALL BE TO WALK AS A GHOST THROUGH THE AGES!
UNTIL THE DAY ALL GODS ARE FORGOTTEN AND THIS WORLD IS NO MORE!
VICTORIA... CARRY OUT THE SENTENCE.
SO, IT MUST BE YOU, VICTORIA? CAN YOU REALLY CONDEMN A FRIEND?
MORE THAN A FRIEND?
DO NOT LET YOUR HEART DWELL IN DOUBT, MY DAUGHTER! OBEY THE GREAT KHALMYR! THE VOICE OF JUSTICE!
ELROPHIN...
THIS IS NOT FAREWELL, VICTORIA... THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF OUR FUTURE!

NO! I'LL HEAR NO MORE! I WAS CARRYING OUT MY DUTY! BEING FAITHFUL TO THE GODS!
VICTORIA... SO IT WAS YOU THAT CAPTURED ELROPHIN AND CAUSED HIM TO BECOME A SPIRIT? WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?
SO, VICTORIA, YOU NEVER TOLD THE BOY ABOUT HOW LITTLE YOU VALUE A FRIENDSHIP?
AFRAID OF LETTING HIM KNOW ABOUT HOW YOU BETRAYED A FRIEND IN THE NAME OF THE GODS?
SERVILE LIKE A GOLEM, WITHOUT HEART OR MIND?
THE PALADIN HIMSELF DEFIED THE GODS IN THE NAME OF THAT IN WHICH HE BELIEVED!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE SAME COURAGE, TO BRING HIM TO JUSTICE DID YOU?

ELROPHIN... YOU TRIED TO USURP THE PLACE OF THE GODDESS VALKARYA WHEN SHE WAS HELPLESS! I WAS SADDENED BY YOUR PASSING, BUT IT HAD TO BE DONE.
SADDENED? ONE CAN BECOME SADDENED IN MANY WAYS... A LOVE LOST... A BETRAYAL... A VICTORY THAT ESCAPED YOUR GRASP.
KLIK
...BUT WHAT I WENT THROUGH WAS BEYOND IMAGINATION!
YOU WERE PROTECTED BY THE MISTS IN WHICH YOUR PRECIOUS GODS PLACED YOU! BUT ME?
I WAS CONDEMNED TO WANDER LIKE A MERE SPIRIT!
CAN THERE BE ANYTHING WORSE FOR THE GOD OF VANITY?

THAT SAME VANITY IS WHAT MADE YOU BETRAY VALKARYA, ELROPHIN!
HA! NOW YOU TRY TO LAY YOUR OWN GUILT UPON ME! TYPICAL!
SKOOM
WZZRAK!
ANYWAY, I ALREADY TOOK MY PUNISHMENT! THE GODS ARE NO MORE!
I AM THE LAST GOD OF ARTON...
...AND YOU'LL BE JUDGED NOW, BY ME!

HEY! TAKE IT EASY, YOU DORKY LESSER GOD!
YOU KEEP JUDGING VICTORIA, BUT YOU WERE NOT CONDEMNED FOR NOTHING!
HOW ABOUT STANDING BY YOUR ACTIONS AND LEAVING HER ALONE?
...!
YYYYAARGH!
SZZZRAAAKTT
?
AAWWW
AAAAFFFF
GGGGAHHHNN
VICTORIA... I'M... SORRY...
NNGGG
NO!

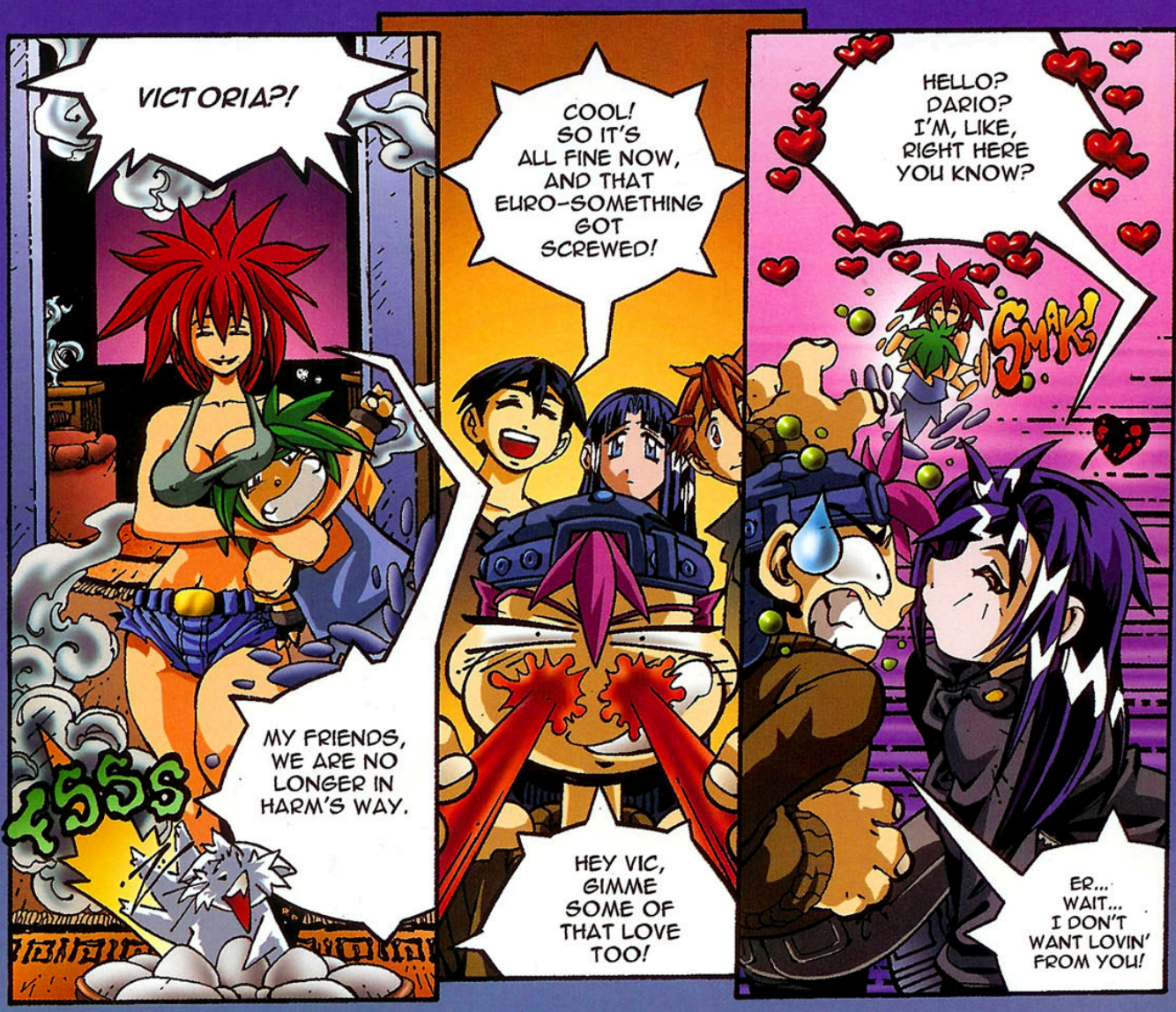
I AM THE TARGET OF YOUR PETTY REVENGE, ELROPHIN! SHOW ME A SHARD OF DECENCY AND LEAVE THE KIDS IN PEACE!
WORK
LEAVE THEM IN PEACE? I GAVE PEACE TO THE TWO I CHOSE TO BE MY ACOLYTES!
I MADE THEM REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT THEY WERE TO THEIR FRIENDS!
YOU ARE INSANE!
ARE YOU SO BLIND YOU CANNOT SEE IT? CAN'T YOU SEE MY PLAN WAS FLAWLESS?
SKOM
FLAWLESS? YOU'RE A JOKE

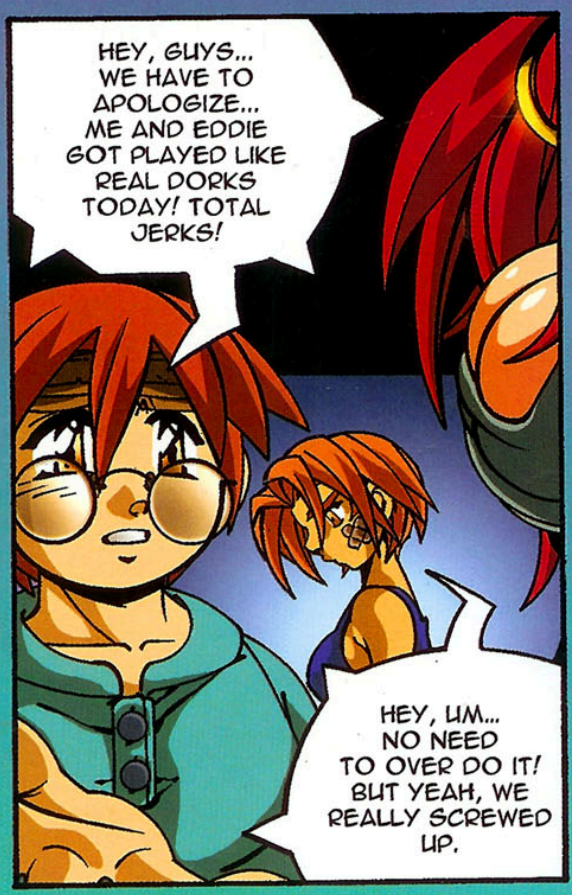
HEY, VICTORIA, I'M STILL THE GAMEMASTER! SO I CAN STILL CHANGE THE RULES!
HAAA
VOOMP!
THE GAMEMASTER'S WORD IS LAW IN A ROLEPLAYING GAME! AND I DECIDED YOU'RE GOING TO WIN!
KLANG!!
KLAMM!
3LING
3LING
KLAMM!
GET HIM, VICTORIA! DON'T FORGET WHO YOU ARE!

I AM AND ALWAYS SHALL BE VICTORY! DAUGHTER OF THE PALADIN!
FWOO
SHH!
SHOOM!!!
ELROPHIN...!
...YOU TRIED TO USURP THAT WHICH WAS NOT YOURS, AND FOR THE SECOND TIME, DEATH SHALL BE YOUR PUNISHMENT!

IF THAT'S HOW YOU SEE IT, VICTORIA, SO BE IT! BE MY EXECUTIONER FOR THE SECOND TIME...
..BUT, AS YOU DO IT, YOU WILL BE DESTROYING THE LAST WITNESS TO THE END OF ARTON!
AS A GHOST, I COULD SEE THE END OF THAT WORLD WITHOUT SUFFERING ANY HARM!
KILL ME, AND THE SECRET OF ARTON WILL GO WITH ME TO THE GRAVE.
LIKE YOU SAID BEFORE, ELROPHIN, SO BE IT.
PUNCH
I HATE YOU, I HATE YOU FOR MAKING ME DO THIS.
I LOVE YOU TOO, VICTORIA!

ANOTHER TIME... ANOTHER REALITY... A PLACE OF FORGOTTEN GODS... WHERE THERE'S NO PLACE FOR WIZARDS AND MONSTERS... ONE DAY THERE WILL BE A PLACE FOR ME.
GUYS, I REALLY WISH FLAVIUS AND VICTORIA WOULD COME BACK SOON...
SO THESE GHOST THINGS WILL GO AWAY
NEVER MIND, FELLA! IF ANY OF 'EM COMES CLOSE, I'LL KICK THEIR SORRY...
HEY, EDDIE, YOUR ANIMAL EMPATHY ONLY WORKS WHEN YOU'RE A DRUID, OK?
AAAAAAAAA
SWOOM!
PLOFT!
DUDE, WHAT'S A DRUID A GAIN?


VICTORIA?!
MY FRIENDS, WE ARE NO LONGER IN HARM'S WAY.
4555
COOL! SO IT'S ALL FINE NOW, AND THAT EURO-SOMETHING GOT SCREWED!
HEY VIC, GIMME SOME OF THAT LOVE TOO!
HELLO? DARIO? I'M, LIKE, RIGHT HERE YOU KNOW?
SMIK!
ER... WAIT... I DON'T WANT LOVIN' FROM YOU!


HEY, GUYS... WE HAVE TO APOLOGIZE... ME AND EDDIE GOT PLAYED LIKE REAL DORKS TODAY! TOTAL JERKS!
HEY, UM... NO NEED TO OVER DO IT! BUT YEAH, WE REALLY SCREWED UP.

YEAH... IT LOOKS LIKE WE ALL HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN WE THOUGHT. WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT?
YUP! YOU GUYS WERE TOTALLY INTO THE RPG THING. YES, YOU LIKE PLAYING AS A MAGE, TOO!
LITTLE FYI , YOUR MAGE IS WORTH NOTHING WITHOUT A KNIGHT, OK?

HEY EDDIE, WHAT DO YOU SAY TO A REMATCH? YOUR DRUID AGAINST MY DWARF!
YOU BET! I'LL GIVE YA A TWO LEVEL ADVANTAGE, TARIAKI BOY!
TUMP!
WILL YOU TWO GIVE IT A REST? YOU, LIKE, KEEP PLAYING THE TOUGH GUY ROLE...
BUT DEEP DOWN INSIDE, YOU BOTH ARE SOFT AS ICE CREAM!
EDDIE, DO WE TELL'EM THAT ELROPHIN'S PAGE IN THE BOOK TURNED WHITE?
NOT NOW, YOU'LL SPOIL THE MOOD.
WHA...?
ARE YOU OK, VICTORIA? NEVER SEEN YOU REMOVE YOURSELF FROM A CONVO BEFORE.
EVERYONE'S FINE AND I'M HAPPY FOR THAT, YOUNG MASTER... BUT, IN A WAY, I FEEL LIKE I WAS DEFEATED!
WHEN THIS ALL STARTED, YOU SAID YOU'D ALWAYS BE BY MY SIDE, VICTORIA...
...AND NOW I MAKE THE SAME PROMISE TO YOU.
IT SUCKS BEING ALONE, AND YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO BE ALONE AGAIN.